

AND

Pages 34-39

Page 4



Special section inside

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 16, 2005

平成22年4月9日 第三種郵便物認可（4月14日1月23日及び12月26日休刊）
発行所 星条園新聞社 〒106-0032 東京都港区六本木7丁目23番17号

50¢

Treaty may force U.S. troops to defend island if conflict arises

Page 9



Kitty comes calling

Page 3

The USS Kitty Hawk pulls into Pusan, South Korea, on Monday morning as the 3rd Fleet band from the Republic of Korea Navy plays. The 43-year-old carrier docked in preparation for Foal Eagle and Reception, Staging, Onward Movement and Integration exercises, annual training events for U.S. and South Korean forces.

TERI WEAVER
Stars and Stripes

STARS & STRIPES
Your Hometown NewspaperCOMING
SOON

Scene on Sunday

50 Cent aims high
with 'Massacre'

Scene on Sunday

Marksmen take
their shot onlineDon't miss a
single issue.

For home delivery, call DSN

225-4505 (Japan)

721-7140 (Korea)

645-2010 (Okinawa)

TODAY IN STRIPES

Abby, Annie's Mailbox.....	26
American Roundup	20-21
Classified	27-30
Comics	24-26
Crossword	25
Faces	17
Horoscope	24
Letters	22
Opinion	23
Sports	30-40
TV listings	18
Weather	19
Your Money	16

News Tracker ... What's new with old news

States

Judge's slain relatives: Rumbling and threatening letters from the man believed to be the killer of Judge Joan Lefkowitz's husband and mother prompted the Illinois Attorney General's office to investigate him six years ago, former state officials say.

Investigators went to the Chicago home of Bart Ross in the winter of 1999 and created an extensive file on him, noting his paranoia and anger at the government and judiciary, said a former investigator and the office's one-time chief of investigations. Ross, 57, committed suicide Wednesday in Milwaukee after a police officer pulled him over because of broken taillights on his van.

Gov. Dean's records: More than two years after he left the governor's office to make his unsuccessful run for the presidency, the fight over public access to Howard Dean's gubernatorial records, which he sealed in 2003, is coming before the Vermont Supreme Court in Montpelier.

At a hearing Monday, Superior Court Judge Ann Cook ordered Dean and the state to identify each of the hundreds of thousands of documents in 86 sealed boxes and say why each should be covered by executive privilege.

Al-Qaida terror plot: A northern Virginia man accused of joining al-Qaida and plotting with them to assassinate President Bush pleaded not guilty Monday in federal court to providing material support to terrorists and other charges.

An Aug. 22 trial date was scheduled for Ahmed Omar Abu Ali, 23, of Falls Church. He was indicted last month and charged with six counts that would allow a maximum prison term of 80 years.

World

Pakistanis' rape sentences: Pakistan's Supreme Court agreed Monday to decide the case of six men sentenced to death for raping a woman on orders from a village council.

The men were sentenced to death in 2002 after elders ordered the rape of Mukhtar Mai, 33, as punishment for her brother's alleged illicit affair with another woman.

But on March 3, the convictions of five of the men were overturned and the sixth reduced to life in prison, sparking an outcry by human rights groups both in Pakistan and abroad. The nation's highest Islamic tribunal threw out the acquittal Friday and reinstated the death sentences, a ruling the Supreme Court must now decide.



Democracy in Nepal: Riot police detain a student activist at a protest rally in Katmandu, Nepal, on Sunday. Demonstrators chanted against King Gyanendra, demanding restoration of democracy and withdrawal of a state of emergency since last month. As demonstrations continued Monday, police arrested dozens of protesters, while communist rebels threatened to step up attacks.

preme Court deemed unconstitutional.

Milan air disaster: An Italian judge on Monday convicted four people and acquitted three others in a 2001 plane crash that killed 118 people at Milan's Linate airport in Italy's worst civil aviation disaster, a lawyer for victims' relatives said.

The four were convicted of multiple manslaughter and sentenced to prison terms of up to four years and four months, said lawyer Alessandro Giorgetti.

Turkey earthquakes: A strong earthquake shook eastern Turkey on Monday, damaging buildings and injuring at least 18 people two days after another quake in the region, authorities said.

The earthquake with a preliminary magnitude of 5.9 was centered in rural Bingol province and struck at 3:55 a.m., toppling several buildings that had been badly damaged in Saturday's magnitude 5.7 temblor, officials said.

Asian bird flu precautions: Hong Kong's government said Monday it plans to step up precautions against bird flu and slash the local chicken population by half to 1.8 million, sparking outrage from the poultry industry.

Locals have long favored freshly slaugh-

tered chicken from live poultry outlets, but authorities want to clamp down on the practice to improve hygiene.

Violent G8 protests: About 150 protesters detained at the Group of Eight summit in northern Italy in 2001 were kicked, slapped, tripped, kneeled in the groin and dragged by their hair, according to a report.

Prosecutors in Genoa released a 534-page report over the weekend detailing "inhuman" and "degrading" behavior by police officers, corrections officers and doctors at the Bolzaneto police garrison, Italian media reported Sunday.

Military

Recruitment protests: Four anti-war protesters accused of spilling blood at a military recruiting station in New York will go on trial in federal court in May.

U.S. District Magistrate Dave Peebles set a tentative trial date of May 7 for the four Ithaca residents who pleaded not guilty Friday, maintaining that they were upholding international law during the March 17, 2003, protest at a military recruiting office in suburban Ithaca.

Stories and photos from The Associated Press

Stay in Thailand for FREE!!

Sign up for a chance to win a free stay in Thailand from Zama ITT

Includes free hotel, transfer, dinner and sightseeing for 2*

Fly direct to Phuket on Thai Airways

Plus receive overnight travel baggage!

Apply at <http://zamaitt.com>

Winner will be announced March 30th in Stars and Stripes

*Airfare not included. Prize must be used May 1 - July 31, 2005



Serving you with a difference

Zama ITT

— Your reliable on-base travel concierge —



Voted Best Travel Agent 2003 & 2004



Proceeds Support Your Local Zama MWR

Phone: 263-4059/9273 Fax: 263-7107

0462-55-8986 0462-55-0356

E-mail: travel@zamaitt.com



PHOTOS BY TERI WEAVER/Stars and Stripes

Left: The USS Kitty Hawk pulls into Pusan Monday morning as South Koreans look on. The 43-year-old carrier docked in preparation for Foal Eagle and Reception, Staging, Onward Movement and Integration exercises, between U.S. and South Korean forces. Above: Rear Adm. James Kelly, Carrier Group Five commander, speaks at a news conference.

Kitty Hawk drops anchor in S. Korea

By TERI WEAVER
Stars and Stripes

ABOARD THE USS KITTY HAWK — A U.S. Navy aircraft carrier and seven of its escort warships moved into South Korean ports early this week to support one of the largest annual military exercises here.

The USS Kitty Hawk, a guided missile cruiser and six destroyers pulled into ports at Pusan, Chinhae and Pyongtaek on Monday and Tuesday to support the Foal Eagle and Reception, Staging, Onward Movement and Integration exercises, which start March 19.

"It's an extremely important defensive exercise for the ROK and the U.S.," Rear Adm. James D. Kelly, Carrier Group Five commander, said while aboard the Kitty Hawk Monday morning.

"We don't necessarily represent the force that would come if something disastrous were to happen. But we are certainly an adequate representation."

The exercise is to prepare defenses for an attack from an unnamed enemy, though the scenarios involve an opponent whose characteristics mirror those of North Korea.

The Kitty Hawk docked at Pier 8 in Pusan shortly after 9 a.m. Monday, after leaving its home at Yokosuka Naval Base in Japan about a month ago to conduct at-sea training.

Its last port visit, two weeks ago, was in Hong Kong.

Its 5,200 sailors and airmen queued for hours to begin their liberty leave.

Some qualified for more than 48 hours in Pusan, where military officials say they will spend, on average, \$500.

The 43-year-old carrier — the Navy's oldest active commissioned ship — was to return to sea later this week, to support RSOI.

Monday, Kelly and his commanders showed the ship to Korean navy officials, politicians and business leaders. The Pusan port visit also included a tour by local media, where Korean journalists asked Kelly about his thoughts on plans to downsize U.S. troop strength here and concentrate troops at two major bases in central South Korea.

"Anything that USFK decides to do as far as moving forces from the peninsula," Kelly said, "will be extremely, closely and tightly coordinated with a group that includes the combined forces commander with the Republic of Korea. Everything will be done in lock step. I have no question that we'll move together," he said.

The U.S. plans to cut its South Korean troop presence by 12,500 in the next few years, a plan both countries' governments approved last year. Already, 3,600 soldiers formerly assigned near the North Korean border now are fighting in Iraq. After that tour ends late this summer, they're to move to Fort Carson, Colo.

N. Korea warns South about joint exercise with U.S.

By JOSEPH GIORDANO
Stars and Stripes

SEOUL — The arrival of the USS Kitty Hawk and other U.S. military assets has North Korea warning that joint military exercises this week by the United States and South Korea could lead to "actual war."

The Japan-based aircraft carrier and other units are in South Korea to take part in annual exercises U.S. officials characterize as "defense oriented" and designed to better defend against "external aggression."

North Korea apparently feels differently.

"There is no guarantee that the large-scale joint military exercises will not go over to an actual war."

"The U.S. and the South Korean authorities should immediately cancel their plan for the provocative joint military exercises," read a commentary carried by the North's official Korean Central News Agency.

North Korea routinely denounces U.S. military moves, often calling them a "prelude to war."

The exercises — called Foal Eagle and the Reception, Staging Onward Movement and Integration exercise — are scheduled to in-

clude movement of Stryker armored vehicles, high-speed Navy vessels shuttling troops around the peninsula and an amphibious landing in southern South Korea.

Thousands of U.S. troops from bases both on and off the peninsula are participating. U.S. Marines from Okinawa also will take part.

"Despite the fact that U.S. Marine Corps involvement in two annual Pacific exercises in late March has been scaled back due to the operational demands of the recent tsunami relief efforts, the Okinawa, Japan-based III Marine Expeditionary Force will participate in this year's RSOI and Foal Eagle exercises on the Korean Peninsula," a Marine statement read.

"The combined RSOI and command post exercise will include about 300 III MEF personnel near Yonjin, Korea, and another 200 participating from Okinawa via communications systems."

Foal Eagle is to include 350 personnel from the 1st Marine Airfield Wing, which will conduct F/A-18 flight operations from Chungju U.S. Air Base, officials said.

E-mail Joseph Giordano at: giordano@starsandstripes.com



The USS Kitty Hawk pulls into Pusan Monday morning in preparation for Foal Eagle and Reception, Staging, Onward Movement and Integration exercises, an annual training event between U.S. and South Korean forces. It is the largest joint exercise between the two allies each year.

Kelly said part of the Kitty Hawk's mission was to be prepared to support U.S. allies throughout the region. He also mentioned that more U.S. carriers have been in Asian waters lately, in part to support troops in the Middle East.

That increased traffic can prove beneficial, he said. The USS Lincoln is in waters near

South Korea when the devastating Dec. 26 tsunami killed tens of thousands throughout southern Asia. The Lincoln responded because it was nearby and because the Kitty Hawk was undergoing maintenance, Kelly said.

"They were in the right place at the right time," he said.

E-mail Teri Weaver at: weaver@osd.mil

Airman gets 21 days

MISAWA AIR BASE, Japan — Airman 1st Class Harley W. Miller of the 35th Aircraft Maintenance Squadron pleaded guilty in a Feb. 25 court-martial here to a charge of reckless driving in connection with the death of a Japanese civilian last year, base officials announced in a news release Monday.

Miller was sentenced to 21 days confinement and a reduction in rank to E-2.

On May 9, Miller was speeding on what's locally known as "30-meter road" toward the Cheese Roll restaurant when he collided with a car driven by a 66-year-old Japanese woman who improperly turned in front of Miller, base officials said.

Law-enforcement officials later estimated the airman's speed at 89 kilometers per hour (55 miles per hour) in a posted 40 kph (25 mph) zone.

Miller attempted to stop prior to the crash, but he was unable to do this, speed officials said.

Japanese authorities waived jurisdiction of the case to the U.S. Air Force in late November after a detailed investigation.

Misawa Navy awards

MISAWA NAVAL AIR FACILITY, Japan — The Navy at Misawa recognized 21 of its Japanese national employees for superior job performance at an annual awards ceremony Monday at the Tohoku Enlisted Club.

The workers, representing various Navy commands, received the "Sustained Superior Performance Award." Navy officials said, a reward program designed to recognize Japanese employees for outstanding job contributions.

Employees received cash awards funded by the government of Japan, officials said.

Each Navy command nominates their employees.

The Air Force, Army, and Army and Air Force Exchange Service also hold similar award ceremonies for their Japanese national employees, officials said.

Science scholars

SEOUL — One student and one teacher from the Department of Defense Dependents' School system's Pacific districts have been selected to take part in a highly regarded science institute this summer.

Isabel Chang, a junior at Seoul American High School at Yongseon Garrison, South Korea, and Tynisa Young, a science teacher at E.J. King High School in Sasebo, Japan, will attend the Research Science Institute at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology.

The institute, sponsored by the Center for Excellence in Education, runs from June 26 to Aug. 6.

Selection was based on a combination of grades, test scores, teacher recommendations, participation in science competitions and community service.

From staff reports

Weasel's Den looks to speed out of the gate

Misawa's new \$1.7 million rec center opens on Saturday

BY JENNIFER H. SVAN
Stars and Stripes

MISAWA AIR BASE, Japan — It's time to shake off that cabin fever.

The much-anticipated grand opening of the Weasel's Den is set for 9:30 a.m. Saturday. Everything will be free — including Go Karts and miniature golf — except for equipment rentals.

"This is going to be the first full-fledged opening to the community," said Outdoor Recreation Director Dave Hymer. The \$1.7 million facility in Hangar 973 is Misawa's new indoor recreation center. The aging World War II-era storage hangar was converted into a 65,000-square-foot play area to give families and young airmen and sailors another recreational outlet, especially during Misawa's long winters, base officials have said.

"The community has been starving for something like this," Hymer said. "This is a great opportunity to get out of the house, let the kids run around and have a great time. It's an opportunity for all ages to have a blast."

The first people to ride the Go Karts — which can travel up to 30 miles per hour — will be the winners of Misawa's American Forces Network contest that was to start Monday.

One ride will be given away daily during EDGE Radio 157.5's 6 a.m.-6 p.m. live broadcasts. "When you hear a race-car sound, whatever number caller (s) designated" gets a ride, said the station's Staff Sgt. Stephanie C. Sornok. The only stipulations, Csonok said, is the winner must be at least 13 and 54 inches tall — the minimum age and height requirements for driving the Go Karts.

The Weasel's Den has 14 electric Go Karts and a 350-ft-long track with curves.

Other activities and stations include a climbing wall, inline skating area, skateboard park, nine holes of miniature golf, video games and, for kids 9 and younger, an inflatable bouncy



JENNIFER H. SVAN/Stars and Stripes

Outdoor Recreation employees Carolyn Catter and Joshua Falet get ready to test-run two Go Karts last week at the Weasel's Den. The grand opening of the new indoor recreation center at Misawa Air Base, Japan, will be from 9:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday.

castle and Fun Zone. Inline skates, climbing gear and other equipment is available to rent or buy.

The center will stay open until 4 p.m. Saturday. A state-side band will provide music and the base clubs will offer food and refreshments. Door prizes will be given away throughout the day following the 10 a.m. ribbon cutting.

Some base residents already have glimpsed the Weasel's Den since Outdoor Recreation relocated its offices and equipment rental desk there earlier this winter. Thomas Lynn, 13, at Outdoor Recreation on Friday with his mom, Maj. Helen Lynn, said the base needed an indoor recreation center.

"I think, yes, because my friend he always played hockey in the middle of the road," he said. "Now he can come down here and play every weekend."

Lynn said he thought the Weasel's Den also would be a cool place for birthday parties. He's in luck: "We are also developing some party rooms where folks can come in and have birthday parties," Hymer said. Rental cost for two hours will run about \$30 to \$40, depending on room size, he said.

After the grand opening, Go Karts will be \$5 for a 5-minute ride; a round of miniature golf, \$1.

Weasel's Den will be open year-round from 10 a.m. to 8 p.m. Sunday through Thursday and 10 a.m. to 10 p.m. Friday and Saturday.

E-mail Jennifer H. Svan at: svan@jstribes.osd.mil

Kinnick kids put science to the test at fair

BY JULIANA GITTLER
Stars and Stripes

YOKOSUKA NAVAL BASE, Japan — For the second year, Nile C. Kinnick High School student scientists pondered and in some cases probed their worlds for the annual school Science Fair.

Students used imagination and a heavy dose of scientific inquiry to answer some noteworthy questions Friday, such as which long-lasting lipstick lasts longest and whether wearing better clothing garners one better science in a store.

Many topics explored areas of interest to the mostly 10th- and 11th-graders who created the projects, more than 60 in all. But they approached their topics using advanced and often surprising creativity.

"This year I think the science is better," said science teacher Dave Trajtenberg, who started the fair last year. "I'm actually really pleased."

His classes began formulating their ideas some months ago. They discussed what makes an interesting project, and the importance of research and analysis to prove a theory, not just believing what's been written before.

That skill can be applied beyond science, Trajtenberg said.

"They realize there's articles out there that aren't necessarily backed by real research and evidence," he said. "It just gives them a little more analytical view."

The students use scientific method — drafting an idea, and using experimentation to prove or disprove a hypothesis — but the fair doesn't just show their ability to follow those steps.

"Most of the kids by 10th or 11th grade can spit out the (scientific) method," Trajtenberg said.

The projects further demonstrate to the students how prevalent and important science is in general life.

Ideas ranged from serious — such as whether children can tell the difference between candy and pills (they cannot, according to the project) — to the good-to-know, such as how far cellular reception reaches in a tunnel.

One project examined whether current events affect students' geographical knowledge. Another looked at the impact of competition on swimmers, whether they perform better during actual meets than in practice.

Trajtenberg said he helps students find topics that interest them. Many show the penchants of their creators: lipstick, hair gel, sports and food.

The smart and sparky cardboard presentations show serious effort, but much of the hard part comes in the earliest stages, he adds.

"The hardest part is always the hardest part every year — finding the perfect question."

E-mail Juliana Gittler at: gittler@jstribes.osd.mil



JIM SCHULZ/Stars and Stripes

Jonathan Delos Santos, bottom left, explains his project on sow bugs to (top left to right) Michael Reilly, Dan Appleman, Richard Bendo and Robert Benton at the Kinnick High School Science Fair on Friday at Yokosuka Naval Base, Japan.

Gym's opening coincides with March Madness

BY DAVE ORNAUER
Stars and Stripes

ANDERSEN AIR FORCE BASE, Guam — The grand opening of what several players and coaches called the best fitness and sports facility they've seen coincided with the tipoff of the 2005 March Madness Open Basketball Tournament.

About 300 spectators, players and coaches attended a ceremony to open Andersen Air Force's \$17 million Coral Reef Fitness and Sports Complex, which Andersen athletics director Gerry Barnes called a "dream come true."

"I've devoted 11 years of civil service trying to get this facility," said Barnes, 53, a retired Air Force senior master sergeant who helped design two major Pacific Air Forces fitness centers, including a \$10.5 million facility that opened in 2001 at Osan Air Base in South Korea.

Now that Coral Reef is open "I'm elated," he said.

Dignitaries from as far away as Washington attended, including Art Myers of the Pentagon's Air Force senior services directorate and Julie Fetters, Pacific Air Forces plans and programs fitness chief. Col. Terry Crummett, Andersen's 36th Mission Support Group commander, called the facility the "finest fitness building in PACAF and one of the best in the Air Force." The 65,000-square-foot center boasts some \$850,000 of fitness equipment, including treadmills, stairmasters and fixed and free weights.

Side by side in the main section stand the facility's centerpiece: two basketball courts, where most of the March Madness tournament games are to be played through Saturday night's finals.

Guam tournament results, Page 31

Each seats 500 spectators — who can view detailed game information on scoreboards showing everything from the score to individual player totals, even how many timeouts each team has left. Floors are "elastic," Barnes said, the same as some NBA teams' practice facilities. "The floors give. They make you jump," he said.

"Everything is NBA designed, from the portable baskets right down to the charge/block halos underneath the baskets," Barnes said, adding that the men's double-elimination playoffs will follow NBA rules. NCAA rules govern round-robin play and the women's tournament.

Several players in both March Madness and December's Osoan Pacific-wide tournament in South Korea said the new Coral Reef center is a bit better.

"This is so much bigger," said guard Suzie Lopez of South Korea's Camp Humphreys Lady Bulldogs. "They have more equipment here. ... It's nice."

"Phenomenal," said guard Cliff Claybrooks of the host Andersen Bombers A squad. "The floors on the courts are nice on the knees for us older players" and "it's open 24 hours a day. I can't sleep, I'll just come in and work out."

Barnes, who also coached the Bombers A team in its two games Monday, confessed to being tired, both from the day's runners of work to make the facility a reality. "All will be well if the customers are happy," he said.

E-mail Dave Ornauer at: orna@jstribes.osd.mil

"I've devoted 11 years of civil service trying to get this facility. I'm elated."

Gerry Barnes
Andersen Air Base
athletics director

Shiites, Kurds, Sunnis to form government

Both sides dealing to put a coalition team in power for opening of parliament March 16

BY SAMEER N. YACOUB

The Associated Press

BAGHDAD — Kurdish leaders convened at Baghdad for talks Monday with majority Shiites as both sides pressed to secure a deal to form a coalition government before the newly elected parliament meets for the first time this week.

Shiites and Kurds have been haggling over the makeup of the government since a new National Assembly was elected Jan. 30. The parliament meets Wednesday.

The political deal calls for Jalal Talabani, a Kurdish leader, to be named president. Conservative Islamic Dawia Party leader Ibrahim al-Jaafari of the Shiite majority United Iraqi Alliance coalition would become prime minister.

"We're not interested in the government posts, we're more interested in Kurdistan and Iraq's interests," Talabani said in Sulaimaniyah, 160 miles northeast of Baghdad.

"We have made good progress. We have a common understanding with the United Iraqi Alliance that we should establish an Iraqi state based on the principles of federalism and respecting human and women's rights."

All al-Dabagh of the clergy-backed alliance said he was optimistic a final deal would be reached before parliament meets Wednesday. But "if no agreement is reached, the first session of the national assembly will be held on Wednesday anyway," he said.

Outside the northern Iraqi city of Erbil, Kurdish leaders met Sunday to work on final details on a coalition government in accordance with a deal reached earlier this month with the United Iraqi Alliance.

"The basic Kurdish demands are not about the Kurds only but the whole of Iraq, we are working for an Iraqi project — a coalition government that respects the constitution," said Interim Deputy Prime Minister Barham Saleh, a Kurd.

Interim Foreign Minister Hoshyar Zebari, also a Kurd, said a Kurdish delegation was to meet with the alliance again Monday before the deal is announced, emphasizing that a final agreement was close.

Talibani, Saleh and Zebari all headed to Baghdad from the north Monday.

The Kurds won 75 seats in the 275-member National Assembly. The alliance won 140 seats and needs Kurdish support to assemble the two-thirds majority to elect a president, who will then get a mandate to the prime minister.

Since 1991, Kurds enjoyed de facto independence, protected from Saddam Hussein's military by a U.S.-enforced no-fly zone. The Kurdish enclave since has been off-limits to the Iraqi army.

In violence Monday in northern Iraq, gunmen killed Hussam Hilal Sarasam, a cameraman for the Kurdish satellite channel KurdSat, witnesses in Mosul said.

Twelve miles south of Baghdad, a suicide car bomb exploded in Yousifiyah, said police Lt. Adnan Mohammed. The blast missed a convoy of sport utility vehicles, hitting a civilian vehicle instead and wounding four people.

In the capital, five bodyguards of Sa'ad al-Amaly, the Health Ministry's director general, were wounded in a roadside bomb attack, a police captain said on condition of anonymity. The guards had been heading to his home to pick him up, he said.



Kurdish leader Jalal Talabani, likely soon to be named Iraqi president, and other Kurdish leaders were converging on Baghdad for last-minute talks Monday with majority Shiites as both sides pressed to secure a deal to form a coalition government before the newly elected parliament meets for the first time later this week.

U.S. deaths in Iraq

The Associated Press

As of Sunday, at least 1,513 members of the U.S. military have died since the beginning of the Iraq war in March 2003, according to an Associated Press count.

At least 1,153 died as a result of hostile action, according to the Defense Department.

The figures include four military civilians.

The AP count is five higher than the Defense Department's tally, last updated at 10 a.m. Friday.

The British military has reported 86 deaths. Italy has reported 20 deaths; Ukraine, 18; Poland, 17; Spain, 11; Bulgaria, eight; Slovakia, three; Estonia, Thailand and the Netherlands, two each. Denmark, El Salvador, Hungary, Kazakhstan and Latvia have reported one death each.

The latest deaths reported by the military:

■ No deaths reported.

The latest identifications reported by the military:

■ No identifications reported.

Joint Chiefs chairman in Iraq to see progress since election

BY ROBERT BURNS

The Associated Press

TIKRIT, Iraq — Gen. Richard Myers, chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, met over lunch Monday with several senior Iraqi military and police officers to hear their concerns and to ex-

press his gratitude.

The Iraqis gave Myers a mostly upbeat assessment of progress, although one general told him through an interpreter that there has been a "big problem" in coordinating the forces of the defense and the interior ministries when both are called upon to respond in

a city such as Samarra.

In Baghdad, Lt. Gen. David Petraeus, in overall command of training Iraqi security forces, told reporters that 145,000 Iraqis are now trained and equipped, although he noted that these are not all equally capable in combat.

Myers spent the day traveling from Mosul, in the far north, to Tikrit and finally to Baghdad, where he met U.S. Ambassador John Negroponte and Ayad Allawi, the interim Iraqi prime minister, as well as several senior U.S. generals. It was Myers' first visit

to Iraq since the Jan. 30 elections.

Some of the Iraqi officers said they were encouraged at progress in developing a capable army, as well as confident that they will eventually have the wherewithal to take full control of the security situation across the entire country.

Asked, however, how soon he thought the Iraqis would be ready to take over, Col. Shaker Faris, 50, the commander for training for the Iraqi's 4th Division, said, "Now is not the right time to take over from the coalition forces be-

cause we need time for more training" and more weapons.

Faris said it is crucial that the coalition do more to control the movement of insurgents across Iraq's borders "so that we can control inside" the country.

Maj. Gen. Anwar Imin, commander of the 2nd Brigade of the 4th Division, said the elections were an important turning point in the effort to build Iraqi security forces. Since then, he said, the Iraqis have had more success capturing insurgents, including a Saudi caught on Sunday.

Yokota Baptist Church

Pastor Warren Webster

日本語訳もあります YBC services are interpreted in Japanese

REACHING THE MILITARY AND JAPAN, ONE PERSON AT A TIME

Yokota Christian Academy M-F	Friday	Awana Club	1900
Sunday	Monthly	Mens Prayer Breakfast	1st Sat
Early Service 0830		Ladies Meeting	1st Sat
Sunday School 1000			
Morning Service 1100			
Evening Service 1800			
Monday			
Faith Bible Institute 1830			
Tuesday			
Soul Winning & Visitation 1830			
Wednesday			
Evening Service & Prayer Mtg 1900			
Patch & Pee Wee Clubs 1900			

0425-52-7254
www.yokotabaptistchurch.org

Ikego 3BR House
¥230,000
PET OK
Built in 2004
1200 sq ft
5 minutes from Ikego Housing
Plenty of closets
2 parking spaces
Oven included
1 YEAR OLD!!

Hayama 3BR House
¥180,000
PET OK
Built in 1988
860 sq ft
1 parking space
Quiet area

Zushi 2BR Townhouse
¥170,000
PET OK
Built in 2001
800 sq ft
2 large bedrooms
2 parking spaces
All appliances

Anjinzuka BRAND NEW 2BR Townhouse
¥180,000
Built in 2005 / 700 sq ft
2 parking spaces
16 minutes from Yokosuka base
All appliances

Life Town
Helping you settle in Japan
Shimizu Bldg 1F, 1-26 Ohtsuka Yokosuka
046-823-5086 Ask for Chris or Kako

At Fussa Gate: Left on 16 to light. Turn right. Take next left. Church on left.

2nd GI in alleged drowning case pleads guilty to assault

By T.A. BADGER

The Associated Press

FORT HOOD, Texas — The platoon leader accused of ordering soldiers to force two Iraqis into the Tigris River at gunpoint pleaded guilty Monday to two assault charges, obstruction of justice and dereliction of duty.

Army 1st Lt. Jack Saville could face up to nine years in military prison under the plea deals, which involve two incidents.

He pleaded not guilty to conspiracy, making a false statement and involuntary manslaughter in the Tigris River case and not guilty to an aggravated assault charge involving an earlier case in Baid.

Saville, a 25-year-old West Point graduate, is accused of ordering troops to push two curfew violators into the river near Samarra in early 2004.

The government says that resulted in the drowning death of Zaidoun Hassoun, 19, who was forced into the river with his cousin, Marwan Hassoun.

But defense lawyers contend Zaidoun is still alive, and in December a judge granted a defense request to have the body exhumed to determine identification and cause of death. It's unclear if that exhumation has happened.

Saville pleaded guilty to aggravated assault on Zaidoun and assault by battery on Marwan.

The obstruction of justice charge was for concocting a lie that they had left the two Iraqis along the road instead of forcing them into the river.

The dereliction of duty charge, which was added Friday, is for not challenging an illegal order by a superior.

It wasn't immediately clear how the pleas would affect the remaining charges.

Was it murder or self-defense?

N.C.-based Marine faces charges in deaths of two Iraqis

By JOHN DESANTIS

The (Wilmington, N.C.) Star-News

WILMINGTON, N.C. — When 2nd Lt. Ilario Pantano and other members of his Marine Corps infantry platoon arrived in Iraq early last spring they were trained for combat, but also ready to wage a battle for the population's hearts and minds.

Within weeks of their arrival an upsurge of violence against U.S.-led coalition forces saw the Wilmington Marine and his men fighting with honor and distinction.

Now, the 33-year-old New York City native faces a different kind of battle, against the armed forces whose uniform he still proudly wears.

Pantano has officially been accused of premeditated murder — a capital charge — for shooting two alleged insurgents he took captive near the town of Mahmadiyah, where his Marine infantry unit was based from March to October of 2004.

The Marine Corps is not talking, other than to confirm that a preliminary hearing will be held in April, citing concerns for Pantano's rights. Official documents say that on April 15, 2004, two men, Hamada Kareem and Tahah Hanjil, were attempting to

flee a house where combat materials were found in a Marine search.

During the ensuing encounter, the documents allege, Pantano broke military law by ordering the two detained men released from their handcuffs,

ordering the only two fellow service members nearby to face away as Kareem and Hanjil searched their own car — which had already been

searched — to ascertain that it was not booby trapped, shooting the two men in the back, then placing a sign atop the car that read "No better friend, no worse enemy."

Ranking Marine Corps officers with direct knowledge of the case have said the prosecution wants to prove that the shooting was an "execution."

Pantano and his Virginia-based attorney, Charles Gittins, say the killings were a legitimate act of self-defense which occurred when the men made a move Pan-

tano perceived as a threat and were within the military rules of engagement.

A national outcry has resulted. On Internet forums and Web logs, television and radio talk shows, the story is the same — why would the U.S. military charge one of its own with murder for killing the enemy in wartime?

"We want to kill people who are the enemy," said one ranking military official, who would only discuss the case on condition of anonymity. "But we are Marines. We have honor, and we fight according to the rules. You just can't execute prisoners."

The case has taken a toll on Pantano and his wife, Jill, who live in a quiet subdivision in Wilmington with their two sons, Sandro, 2, and Nicolo, 4 months, about 70 miles from Camp Lejeune, where Pantano is based.

Civilian friends describe him as a "renaissance man" with wide cultural interests. On the family's bookshelves are volumes on philosophy and cooking, law and new media, classic works by literary masters, and a scant few dealing with military subjects.

"It is extremely difficult," Jill Pantano said. "There he is home safe and alive, and to have these charges pressed against him after he served in Iraq so honorably, it is a disgrace."



Pantano

Ceremony kicks off Afghan road repair

By KENT HARRIS

Stars and Stripes

CHARIKAR, Afghanistan — A resurfaced road generally doesn't draw much attention in many parts of the world.

But in Afghanistan, where good roads are a rarity, a ceremony to announce a plan to upgrade about 45 miles between Panjshir and Parwan drew a crowd, featuring the country's president and vice president, the U.S. ambassador and the senior U.S. military commander in Afghanistan.

Afghan President Hamid Karzai, U.S. Ambassador to Afghanistan Zalmay Khalilzad and a handful of local and national officials spoke under a pavilion that helped to keep away some of the intermittent rain Monday afternoon.

"Afghanistan has come a long way, but it still has a long way to go," said Khalilzad, who will soon become the American ambassador to Iraq. "The reconstruction needs of the country are great. Especially given the destruction of the last 25 years."

The road — currently a mix of dirt along with a few rocks — will

serve a number of purposes, Khalilzad said.

He cited local industry, agriculture, tourism, coal mining, security and medical care as areas that would benefit.

The U.S. Agency for International Development is funding the project, which is set to start the

work will cost about \$2.7 million, according to the Associated Press.

Karzai, speaking in Pashto, received a warm welcome from the crowd.

He arrived and departed via a U.S. Chinook helicopter. American and Afghan forces provided heavy security for the event both on the ground and in the air.

Lt. Gen. David Barno, the senior American commander in Afghanistan, said the road would likely be used by the U.S. military on occasion, but said that wasn't the reason he was happy to see it going ahead.

"Everything we do to improve the economy for the Afghans is a benefit for us," he said. "This whole area was just devastated by the Soviets and the Taliban."

E-mail Kent Harris at: harris.k@mail.espress.com



Karzai



Khalilzad

Best Offers On Line We Have The Lowest Prices >>> www.hitravel.co.jp

March Depature

City	Price
Los Angeles	\$335
Washington DC	\$365
Seoul	\$225

Select City U.S.A. \$353

City	Price
All U.S.A.	\$419
Honolulu	\$435
Manila	\$385

YOKOTA BRANCH TEL: 042-539-7202 | TSUBO BRANCH TEL: 0407-71-1051 | EBSU BRANCH TEL: 03-3473-9040 | SHIMIZU BRANCH TEL: 03-5340-4363

NAUTICA PRESENTS

ONE BLOOD

All the way from Jamaica the legendary **JUNIOR REID**

3.25.FRI at Bay Area

Yokosuka 11pm to 5 am

Entrance fee: Male 3,000 yen Female 2,000 yen

Special Guest Sound and DJ

- Club Jamaica • Infinite Sound
- Unstoppable • Sleepy with Disco Jack
- Black Assassins

Phone info: Japanese 090-4671-8302 or 090-4671-8877 / English 080-3470-2610
E-mail: nyassins@docucom.ne.jp or www.infinitevibes.com

<http://www.araimountainspa.com/>

ARAI MOUNTAIN & SPA

ARAI offers complimentary lift tickets to elementary school aged children every Sunday through April 3, 2005. See the Arai lift for further details.

See you at ARAI!

ARAI MOUNTAIN & SPA
1960 Rte. 99A, NIKITA 944-0062 JAPAN
English Tel: 015-71-0462
English Mobile: 090-2652-0685

Ex-Sanchez aide to take intelligence post

Appointment of Maj. Gen. Barbra Fast had been put on hold during Abu Ghraib probe

BY JON R. ANDERSON
Stars and Stripes

ARLINGTON, Va. — Two of the top officers who served under Lt. Gen. Ricardo Sanchez in Iraq — and were responsible for oversight of the units at Abu Ghraib detention facility at the time — have been given new high-profile jobs.

Maj. Gen. Barbra Fast, who served as chief of intelligence for Sanchez, will take command of the U.S. Army Intelligence Center at Fort Huachuca, Ariz., on Wednesday.

Cleared of wrongdoing by military investigators, Fast will be handed the colors of the service's main intelligence training schoolhouse from Gen. Kevin Byrnes, the commander of the Army's Training and Doctrine Command, according to Fort Huachuca spokesman Maj. Paul Karnaze.

The top post at the Intelligence Center has been vacant since Maj. Gen. James A. Marks left in June. Although Fast arrived as Marks was leaving with orders to take over the school, her assignment was put into a nine-month limbo as investigators looked into her role in Abu Ghraib scandal. An investigation led by former Defense

Secretary James Schlesinger released in August criticized Fast, finding that she "failed to advise (Sanchez) properly on the directives and policies needed" for interrogations and for inadequately monitoring CIA operations at the detention facilities.

Since then, however, internal Army investigations have cleared Fast of any wrongdoing.

"She's maintained that she had a job to do and got on with. Her focus is on the future now," Karnaze said. While he said Fast will offer a brief news conference after assuming command, he does not expect her to entertain questions about Abu Ghraib.

"Her focus is on the future now," he said.

Meanwhile, Maj. Gen. Walter Wojdakowski, Sanchez's deputy commander in Iraq, has been given a position of greater responsibility as acting deputy commander of Army forces in Europe, directly under

Gen. B.B. Bell, said Lt. Col. Jane Crichton, a U.S. Army Europe spokeswoman. The position is traditionally a three-star assignment requiring Senate approval.

During his yearlong tour in Iraq, Wojdakowski was responsible for overseeing V Corps' "separate brigades," including the 800th Military Police Brigade and the 205th Military Intelligence Brigade.

Both units were responsible for operations at Abu Ghraib and

Maj. Paul Karnaze
Fort Huachuca, Ariz., spokesman

their commanders were harshly criticized for weak and ineffectual leadership that directly contributed to the abuses, according to several investigations.

An investigation led by Lt. Gen. Anthony Jones concluded that Wojdakowski along with Sanchez "failed to ensure proper staff oversight of detention and interrogation operations," highlighting Wojdakowski's "direct oversight" of the two brigade commanders.

Brig. Gen. Janis Karpinski, commander of the 800th MP Brigade, who recently received a letter of reprimand for leadership failures, said Wojdakowski once told her "I don't care if we're holding 15,000 innocent civilians! We're winning the war!" according to a sworn statement by Karpinski obtained by the American Civil Liberties Union through the Freedom of Information Act.

Both Wojdakowski and Sanchez — who remains commander of V Corps — are still under investigation.

Until recently Wojdakowski had remained Sanchez's deputy in Germany, after returning from Iraq. According to the Army General Officer Management Office in Washington, Wojdakowski had been reassigned, serving as "special assistant" to Bell, a job that does not otherwise exist at that level.

In real terms, Crichton said, Wojdakowski now works as Bell's acting deputy and chief of staff. Traditionally either job is a career-enhancing position usually reserved for leaders being groomed for promotion.

E-mail Jon R. Anderson at:
jon.anderson@stripes.osd.mil

VOLVO CARS MILITARY SALES. IT'S A GREAT DEAL.



VOLVO
for life

TRIPLE J MOTORS

E-mail us at militarysales@triplejgum.com

157 S. Marine Corps Drive, Tamuning, Guam 96913 • Tel: 649-5555 • Fax 649-6487

Order your new Volvo
through us and save
thousands off U.S. prices*

We'll handle the details and make sure that your new Volvo is waiting for you back home. Call or e-mail us today to find out how.

*Some conditions apply.

Gitmo detainees' transfer blocked by federal judge

The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — A federal judge has blocked the government from transferring 15 detainees from the U.S. detention center at Guantanamo Bay, Cuba, until a hearing is held on concerns the detainees may be mistreated in another country.

The judge's ruling temporarily blocks any plans by the government to transfer the detainees to prisons in other countries.

Lawyers for the Yemenis are worried the government will try to move them from the Guantanamo Bay facility to another country in order to "warehouse them in a prison, provide them with no legal process and, in effect, avoid the American court process altogether," Marc Falkoff, an attorney for the detainees, said Sunday.

U.S. District Judge Rosemary Collyer's ruling Saturday on an emergency petition blocks any attempt to move the Yemenis until a hearing is held on their lawyers' request for at least 30 days notice if their clients are to be transferred.

"All we want is an opportunity to ask the court to review whether the U.S. government is acting properly to move our clients out of Guantanamo," Falkoff said. "We are not asking for a veto power over any transfer. All we want is notice so we can ask a judge to review the legality of the transfer. We don't want our clients to be tortured. We don't want them to be deprived of due process of law."

Barbara Olshansky, deputy director for litigation at the Center for Constitutional Rights, which is coordinating the detainees' legal representation, said she expects lawyers for hundreds of detainees to file for similar action soon.

YOKOTA 042-530-4891
E-mail: yokota@fe-nf.com

We will give you the best offer!! JUST CALL US!!

APRIL HOTEL & AIR PACKAGE!!							
GUAM 7 DAYS	BANGKOK 4 DAYS	HAWAII 4 DAYS	BEIJING 4 DAYS	CAIRNS 5 DAYS	NEW ZEALAND		
AD \$59,600	AD \$53,800	AD \$56,800	AD \$67,000	AD \$69,800	AD \$74,600		
CH \$50,000	CH \$43,800	CH \$51,800	CH \$59,000	CH \$34,900	CH \$69,600		

ASIA AIR MARCH & APRIL SPECIAL

SEOUL APRIL AP35 \$27,000 (\$262)	CHINA BY 17 MAR \$35,000 (\$339)	OKINAWA APRIL 20P \$25,600 (\$248)	SINGAPORE MAR \$38,000 (\$368)	BANGKOK/PHUKET HO CHI MIN 20P APRIL \$37,800 (\$366)	MANILA APRIL \$42,000 (\$407)
---	--	--	--	---	---

APRIL TO JUNE USA

LOS ANGELES (3-21 APRIL) \$42,300 (\$410)	GUAM/SAIPAN \$35,000 (\$339)	HAWAII (1-26 APRIL) \$46,900 (\$455)	WESTGATE CITY APRIL AP35 \$52,000 (\$504)	ALL USA 1MF APRIL AP35 \$56,000 (\$543)	USA 3 MONTHS \$69,000 (\$670)
---	---	--	---	---	--

MARCH USA SPECIAL

ROUND TRIP 1 MONTH TICKET	USA TO JAPAN LA/NYC	LOS ANGELES BY 17 MAR	HONOLULU MAR	MIDDLE EAST USA BY 17 MAR	MIDDLE EAST USA BY 31 MAR
PRICE FROM	\$487/\$579	\$44,000/\$39,900	\$58,900	\$47,000	\$54,000
		\$435/CHS387	\$571	\$456	\$524

APRIL & MAY DEPARTURE BEIJING
BEIJING 4 DAYS \$64,000 / \$621

BIG NEWS! NIGHT FLIGHT OPEN ON SATURDAY & SUNDAY FOR YOU! (Open Sunday after military payroll!)

WEEK DAY 9:00 A.M. - 7:00 P.M. SATURDAY 9:00 A.M. - 4:00 P.M.

IMPORTANT

- * Prices are per person, including taxes and fees.
- * Government charges (VAT, BUL, CA, etc.) are extra.
- * Insurance is a charge (not included).
- * All flights are subject to change without notice.

Afghan baby is a special delivery

U.S. soldiers help mother give birth on Black Hawk en route to base

BY KENT HARRIS

Stars and Stripes

BAGRAM AIR BASE, Afghanistan — The population of Afghanistan grew slightly Saturday, thanks in part to a pair of Black Hawk crews and a 25-year-old flight medic from Wiesbaden, Germany.

Army Spc. Kyle Storbakken helped an Afghan mother deliver a healthy 6½-pound baby while aboard a Black Hawk flying to the U.S. military base Salerno.

"This was my first delivery," Storbakken said via a phone interview from Salerno, a remote base a few hours away by helicopter from Bagram.

It was the first such delivery that anyone associated with the current medical mission in the country had knowledge of. Col. John Gidycz, the commander of the 249th General Hospital at Bagram, said most Afghans the hospital sees are those critically injured by mines, accidents or attacks by anti-coalition forces.

"It's very nice to have a joyful emergency coming through our doors," he said.

Peer Mullah Khan, the baby's father, is a leader of the village next to the U.S. outpost at Shkin. Through a translator, he said he came to U.S. troops for help when his wife started struggling during labor.

Giving birth isn't a new experience for his wife, Melawa. The baby girl, who hasn't been named yet, is the couple's 14th child. Two have died, but the others — ranging from the newest addition to a 19-year-old girl — make for a large family. Two sons currently serve in the Afghan army.

American officials said they agreed to take the mother and father aboard the aircraft because it appeared that the placenta was between the baby and the birth canal, potentially putting both lives at risk. Fortunately, that turned out not to be the case.

In order to save time, one helicopter was dispatched from Salerno to Shkin to pick up the mother while another left Bagram to fly to Salerno. While the first helicopter was on its way back from the village to Salerno, the mother gave birth.

Storbakken, assigned to the 159th Medical Company (Air Ambulance) at Wiesbaden, said he couldn't recall any specific emotions he had while helping deliver the baby.

"I guess you don't really think about what's going on until it's all over," he said.

Capt. Richard Mangini, the executive officer of the 68th Medical Company, of which Storbakken is a part, said in-air births are a rarity. And it was even more special because of who was delivering the baby.

"He's our youngest and probably most inexperienced medic in terms of time on the job," he said.

Storbakken said he's already received several good-natured jabs by his peers.

"Some of the guys have been calling me daddy," he said.

The real father and mother were expected to travel back to Salerno from Bagram on Monday with the newest member of their family.

E-mail Kent Harris at: harris@mail.estrpines.osd.mil

Army doctor seeks stateside care for 3-year-old Iraqi boy

BY CHARLIE COON

Stars and Stripes

BAQOUBA, Iraq — Abbasi isn't like most 3-year-old boys.

He hardly ever smiles or talks. Abbasi often runs a fever of 106 degrees, and when he lays down on his back, the outline of his swollen spleen can be seen pushing through his stomach.

"I was with him the one time he smiled," said Spc. Penney Gainer.

"It was my happiest moment since he has been here."

Quis Abbas, better known as Abbasi, is suffering from something that can't be pinpointed by the Iraqi doctors in Baqouba or the American ones at Forward Operating Base Warhorse.

So Dr. (Capt.) Matthew J. Carter, a pediatrician at the Teal Medical Aid Station, is pulling strings to have Abbasi flown for treatment to Walter Reed Army Medical Center in Washington, D.C.

Abbasi, the son of a coalition-friendly tribal sheik, or village leader, is thought to be suffering from leukemia or another disease that has caused his spleen and liver to swell and his blood counts to be dangerously low.

Abbasi's enlarged spleen gives his lungs less room to work, Carter said, making the boy work a little harder for every breath he takes.

Transporting Abbasi to the states for diagnosis and treatment has to be justified to the State De-

partment or Defense Department or both.

"We don't want to advertise that we can help every kid in town," he said. Doing so, Carter said, would undercut the Iraqis' own medical providers.

"But this is a very sick kid, and we care," he added.

Carter said he hoped a decision would be made within a week or two.

The Teal clinic is part of Company C, 203rd Forward Support Battalion, part of the 42nd Infantry Division's Task Force Liberty. Its Level 2 care capabilities enable the staff to treat everyday

sick calls, sprains and strains, dehydration and some casualties of war.

It has operating and trauma rooms. In its first three weeks of operation, the staff treated

392 patients, including 112 Iraqis. Some of the staff have adopted Abbasi as one of their own. Gainer, of Cary, Ill., cradles Abbasi during the night shift, while Spc. Joy Maine of Snohomish, Wash., handles the day care.

"The first time I saw him I felt really bad because he looked really sick," Maine said. "Sometimes I'll take him outside for fresh air to get him out of his bed."

On Thursday the staff threw a little party for Abbasi, his third birthday. His gifts included a big, red stuffed bear, some clothes and other goodies.

Col. Steven Salazar, command-



PHOTOS BY CHARLIE COON/Stars and Stripes

Dr. (Capt.) Matthew J. Carter holds Quis Abbas, better known as Abbasi. Carter, a pediatrician at the Capt. John Teal Medical Aid Station at Forward Operating Base Warhorse in Baqouba, Iraq, is trying to get approval for Abbasi to be flown to Walter Reed Army Medical Center in Washington, D.C., for diagnosis of an undetermined medical condition.

er of the Warhorse-based 3rd Brigade Combat Team, said the request to transport Abbasi to Washington for treatment was a good use of U.S. taxpayer dollars.

"With all the dollars going into the overall fight, the dollars spent to take care of this boy is less than a drop in the bucket," Salazar said. "But it means a lot to the boy and a lot to a lot of people in (the province of) Diyala."

Abbasi is one of 22 children of

Sheik Ahmed Abdun al-Ahmeri of Bani Saad, located between Baghdad and Baqouba. He said he feels his son is part of his own body and is ready to do anything to make him feel better.

"I trust in God first," said Abdun, a Shiite, through a translator. "And then I trust the American physicians to help my son be better."

E-mail Charlie Coon at: coon@mail.estrpines.osd.mil

U.S. troops seize drugs, detain nine, officials say

The Associated Press

KARACHI, Pakistan — A U.S. Navy ship in the Arabian Sea seized more than two tons of hashish from a ship off Pakistan's coast and detained nine suspected drug traffickers, a Pakistani official said Monday.

The USS Buckner Hill made the seizure on Sunday and the nine Pakistani suspects were handed over to local authorities, said Lt. Cmdr. Khawar Hasan Khan, a spokesman for the Maritime Security Agency. Khan said the boat was carrying 6,000 pounds of hashish. It was seized near Gawadar, a coastal town about 300 miles west of Karachi.

Since the Sept. 11, 2001, attacks on the United States, the U.S. Navy has regularly patrolled the Arabian Sea off the Pakistani coast to search for terror suspects, he said.

Pakistan is an ally of the United States in the war against terrorism.

Separately, Pakistani paramilitary troops seized 1,552 pounds of hashish after a shoot-out with suspected traffickers in southwestern Baluchistan province, said Lt. Col. Rizwan Malik, whose Frontier Corps made the drug haul.

Malik said the seizure was made Sunday night near the Afghan border and the suspected smugglers fled.

No one was arrested and no injuries were reported. Drug hauls are common in Pakistan, which straddles a route for narcotics from Afghanistan that are destined mostly for the lucrative European and Middle East markets.

Also on Monday in Baluchistan, which borders Afghanistan, police seized 2,612 pounds of morphine from a house in Chaghai area, said Capt. Mohammed Ali, an official with the Anti-Narcotics Force.

No one was inside the house at the time, he said.

AF plans \$15M runway

KONA, Hawaii — The Air Force plans to build a \$15 million runway at the Big Island's Kona Airport.

The Air Force plans to use it to train a new squadron of C-17 Globemaster cargo jets.

The runway will be built between the ocean and the existing runway at Kona, said Lt. Lt. Craig Savage, an Air Force spokesman.

He says there is no timetable to build the runway since no Air Force money has been appropriated for the project.

The first of eight C-17 Globemaster cargo jets will arrive at Hickam Air Force Base in January.

One new four-engine C-17 is expected to arrive at Hickam each month from Boeing's Long Beach, Calif., factory.

From The Associated Press

IN THE WORLD

China passes anti-secession legislation

New law authorizes use of force against Taiwan

BY CHRISTOPHER BODEEN

The Associated Press

BEIJING — China's parliament enacted a law Monday authorizing force to stop rival Taiwan from pursuing formal independence, sparking outrage on the self-governing island and warnings that the measure would fuel regional tensions.

The ceremonial National People's Congress passed the law despite U.S. appeals for restraint. It came a day after President Hu Jintao called on China's military to be ready for war and followed a 12.6 percent increase in the country's defense budget for 2005.

Premier Wen Jiabao said the mainland still wants to unite peacefully with the island and doesn't want to disrupt the status quo.

"It is not targeted at the people of Taiwan, nor is it a war bill," Wen said at a news conference. But he also warned outsiders not to get involved. "We do not wish to see foreign interference."

A Taiwanese government spokesman rejected the measure as a "serious provocation."

"It also brought emotional pain to the Taiwanese people, restricts Taiwan's freedom and democracy, and has a serious impact on security in the East-Asia region," said Joseph Wu, chairman of the island's Mainland Affairs Council, which handles policy toward Beijing.

In a session broadcast on national television, the Chinese delegates burst into applause after the law was approved by a 2,896-0 vote, with two abstentions. The body usually votes overwhelmingly for Communist Party policies, but the emphatic result was meant to send a message of the intensity of Beijing's sentiment on the issue.

Taiwan and China split in 1949. Beijing has threatened repeatedly to attack if it tries to make its de facto independence permanent. The United States is Taiwan's biggest arms supplier and could be drawn into any conflict over the island.

A leading Taiwanese lawmaker criticized the measure as a "savage law."

It shows that China "feels futile and doesn't know how to deal with Taiwan's democracy and freedom," said Chen Chin-jun, a member of the ruling Democratic Progressive Party.

"We can clearly see that Taiwan and China ... are not one China. They are two Chinas or one country on each side," Chen said in Taipei. "Whatever law they passed, Taiwan has its own sovereignty, government, country and democracy."

The law says China would "employ nonpeaceful means and other necessary measures to protect China's sovereignty and territorial integrity." It said such steps could be taken if Taiwan declared formal independence, if "major incidents" occurred causing Taiwan to separate permanently from China, or if "possibilities for a peaceful reunification should be completely exhausted."

The law doesn't give details of what specific developments might trigger an attack. It adds no new threats or conditions, but it codifies the measures for authorizing military action.

Legislators said the law would send a message that Beijing's patience was wearing thin.

"For us in the armed forces, this gives us a legal foundation on which to make our preparations to maintain our sovereignty and territorial integrity," said Lt. Zhang Shantong, a delegate from the People's Liberation Army.



A pro-Taiwan independence demonstrator displaying anti-China slogans sits outside the Legislature during a rally against China's anti-secession law on Monday in Taipei, Taiwan.

Russia, Pakistan among few to support controversial law

The Associated Press

TOKYO — China's threat Monday to oppose Taiwanese independence with military force triggered a call for peaceful dialogue from Japan and a discussion of Australia's treaty obligations should a war break out. But Russia and Pakistan supported Beijing's new legislation.

"I want the two sides to work hard toward a peaceful solution, so there will not be any negative impact," said Japanese Prime Minister Junichiro Koizumi, whose government recently declared a diplomatic resolution of the Taiwan dispute as a strategic objective with the United States.

An outbreak of hostilities would be a severe blow to stability in East Asia, possibly prompt-

ing a response from the United States — which has some 50,000 troops in Japan and 35,000 in South Korea — to defend Taiwan.

Such a conflict could pin top U.S. allies in the area such as Japan and Australia between treaty obligations to Washington and reluctance to alienate China, which is assuming a growing political and economic role in the region.

Russia on Monday reaffirmed Moscow's opposition to independence for Taiwan and said it considered the question of Taiwan an internal matter for China, a top strategic partner for Russia in Asia.

Not all Asian countries were worried about the move. Pakistan, a long time ally of China, supported the new law.

Message for our men and women in uniform...

WE ARE PROUD OF YOU!

From coast to coast, thousands of Americans are grateful for what you do and want to show you that they care.

To see the actions and messages of support from these groups and individuals from all across America, visit www.stripes.com.

This is just a small token of appreciation, a way to say...

**AMERICA
SUPPORTS
YOU**
OUR MILITARY MEN & WOMEN



Please visit the site at www.stripes.com and click on the America Supports You button to view the messages of support and to submit your own thank you notes as well!

STARS AND STRIPES
Your Hometown Newspaper

Premier: China won't abolish death penalty

The Associated Press

BEIJING — China has no plans to abolish its death penalty but is carrying out reforms to ensure that it is used prudently, Premier Wen Jiabao said Monday.

China is believed to account for most of the world's court-ordered executions, putting to death hundreds of people a year for crimes ranging from murder to such non-violent offenses as tax evasion.

"Given our national conditions, we cannot abolish the death penalty," Wen said.

Activists claim that death sentences often are handed out during anti-crime crackdowns for

nonviolent offenses that weren't capital crimes at the time they were committed.

The communist government doesn't release detailed statistics on how many people are executed. But estimates by human rights groups for 2003 ranged from about 700 to more than 5,000. Estimates of China's portion of court-ordered executions worldwide range from two-thirds to more than 90 percent.

Death sentences in China are automatically appealed but rarely overturned.

"More than half the countries in the world still have the death penalty," Wen said.

Tsunami survivors find love in odd place

BY MICHAEL CASEY

The Associated Press

BANDA ACEH, Indonesia — Karmila Wati first noticed Sam-sol Winda's smile when he checked her into a refugee camp after their homeland was lashed by Asia's deadly tsunami. Winda, after coming back to Banda Aceh and her family were getting relief supplies and soon romance blossomed.

The couple — who both lost their homes and some relatives in

the tsunami — married at a mosque on Monday and then held a party for fellow survivors under a leaky United Nations tarp in their survivors' camp.

The wedding ceremony was a first for the camp and brought rare smiles to the faces of people still traumatized by the Dec. 26 disaster that killed more than 125,000 in their home province of Aceh and left some 400,000 homeless.

"This is so unbelievable. I never thought I'd meet my hus-

band in a refugee camp," said Wati, 21, sitting next to her husband in their tent. "It must mean that good things will come after all this tragedy."

The newlyweds wore traditional Acehese wedding clothes — Wati in a yellow dress with a golden, spiked crown while Winda, 25, wore a black and yellow coat, a green hat and a small sword known as a rengat at his side.

For the 50 guests — mostly dressed in donated T-shirts and rubber sandals — the party was a

brief respite from their own problems and showed a glimmer of normalcy in the badly damaged provincial capital of Banda Aceh.

Camp residents volunteered to help out.

"This ceremony helps us forget everything we have been through," said Dewi, 26, as she washed dishes from the party. It was gratifying to see someone happy for a day, said Dewi, who like many Indonesians uses only one name.



Karmila Wati looks in a mirror before her wedding Monday at a refugee camp in Mata le, Aceh Besar, Indonesia.

Pirates attack Japanese boat near Malaysia, kidnapping 3

The Associated Press

TOKYO — Pirates attacked a Japanese-registered tugboat in Malaysian territorial waters Monday, and three people were believed to have been taken hostage, officials said.

The tugboat's owner notified Japan's Foreign Ministry that pirates had attacked the 14-ton in the Malacca Strait at about 7:30 p.m. and kidnapped two Japanese — the captain and chief engineer — as well as a Filipino engineer, the ministry said in a statement.

The ministry said it was still confirming the information and had established a task force.

"The government will do its utmost for their safe and early release," the statement said.

Noel Choong, regional manager of the International Maritime Bureau's Kuala Lumpur-based piracy watch center, said the crew had contacted the center for help, saying an unknown number of armed pirates were trying to storm the boat in waters off northern Penang island. Kyodo News agency reported 14 crew were aboard the tugboat.

Police patrol vessels were immediately dispatched to the area, Choong said.

Japan's coast guard issued a warning to ships in the region advising caution, coast guard spokesman Masafumi Fujii said.

The incident is the third such attack in the Malacca Strait since the Dec. 26 tsunami, which some experts had thought may have decimated pirates who had long plagued the waterway between Sumatra island and peninsular Malaysia. The shipping lane is used by about 50,000 vessels annually.

The long absence of pirates is over now," Choong said earlier after the IMB said an Indonesian-owned tanker was attacked Saturday. "The attacks are starting again."

The IMB recorded 37 pirate attacks in the 550-mile-long Malacca Strait last year, up from 28 in 2003. Most attacks involved vessels being fired on and crew kidnapped for ransom.



GET THE RESULTS THAT GET ATTENTION!

BODYBUILDING.COM

will save you up to 50% on your supplements.
Fastest shipping directly to your APO/FPO.
Orders over \$75 get a free T-Shirt!

GET FREE TRAINING AND NUTRITION PROGRAMS!

- ++ EQUIPMENT & ACCESSORIES
- ++ MUSCLE BUILDERS
- ++ WEIGHT GAINERS
- ++ SEXUAL HEALTH
- ++ NUTRITION TIPS
- ++ WEIGHT LOSS

SAVE UP TO 50% ON YOUR SUPPLEMENTS AND GET FREE TRAINING AND NUTRITION PROGRAMS!

"The service I received from Bodybuilding.com was first class. The order was processed quickly and shipped expeditiously. Foremost I would like to commend your selection and prices, the products I purchased were bought at half the price I would have otherwise bought them for. Thank you, and keep up the excellent work."

L.L. Jonathan W.
US Army, Infantry

GET A 30 DAY SUPPLY OF:

- Muscle Building Protein
- Fat Burner
- Multi-Vitamins

Regular Price \$129.93

ALL FOR ONLY

\$59.95



Log on today at www.bodybuilding.com and get the information that millions of satisfied customers have used to achieve their fitness goals. **FREE!!**

BODYBUILDING.COM

BUILDING BETTER BODIES FOR LESS

S. Korean protesters slash fingers over islets

The Associated Press

SEOUL — Two South Korean demonstrators each cut off a finger outside the Japanese Embassy in Seoul on Monday to protest Tokyo's territorial claim to a set of islets controlled by South Korea. Japan recalled its ambassador over the same issue.

The demonstrators' protest followed a proposal by Japanese provincial lawmakers to establish a commemoration day to bolster Tokyo's claim to the small islands, called Dokdo in Korea and Takeshima in Japan.

Ambassador Toshiyuki Takano returned to Tokyo on Sunday to "brief officials on the current situation and how to respond," said Chief Cabinet Secretary Hirofumi Hosoda.

Hosoda refused to specify the reason for Takano's return, but it came after the diplomat infuriated South Koreans last month by saying the islets are "historically and legally part of the Japanese territory."

An ambulance quickly took away a middle-aged woman who sliced off her finger with a cutter outside the embassy. Another protester who also cut off his finger was removed by police.

South Korea has warned it is willing to risk its relations with Japan over the territorial dispute.

The volcanic islets, which lie between the two countries in the Sea of Japan — surrounded by rich fishing grounds — have long caused diplomatic friction between South Korea and Japan. South Korea has stationed a small detachment of police on the otherwise uninhabited islets, effectively controlling them.



Protester Park Kyung-ha shows her bloody hand after she cut her finger during a rally against Japan's claims over a disputed set of islets in front of the Japanese Embassy in Seoul on Monday.

AP

Report: Kim's son escaped '03 plot

The Associated Press

SEOUL — North Korean leader Kim Jong Il's eldest son escaped an assassination attempt in China last year, according to a news report Monday.

Chinese authorities may have been aware of the attempt to kill Kim Jong Nam, South Korea's Yonhap news agency said, citing an unnamed South Korean intelligence official. The report gave no other details.

South Korea's National Intelligence Service declined to comment on the report.

Austrian officials denied a report about an alleged assassination attempt in November against Kim Jong Nam while he was visiting.

Kim Jong Nam was once believed to be favored to replace Kim Jong Il in the country's hereditary succession of power. However, he is believed to have lost his chance after he embarrassed his father in 2001 by being detained while trying to enter Japan on a false passport to visit Tokyo's Disneyland. He was later released and had been reportedly staying in China.

Pesticide deaths

MANILA, Philippines — Laboratory tests show that 27 school children who died after eating cassava roots last week were poisoned with pesticide, health experts said Monday.

Authorities earlier said they suspected the victims from Mabini town on central Bohol island were sickened with cyanide poisoning that occurs if the starchy cassava roots are not properly cooked.

But Health Secretary Manuel Dayrit told a news conference that tests showed pesticide was likely the cause.

Carbamate pesticide is a commonly used in farms and households on Bohol and may have already been in the environment, toxicologists said.

From The Associated Press

- Safe & Effective
- Non-Drowsy
- Aspirin Free
- Non-Habit Forming
- Formulated by a Licensed Herbalist

The Answers are CLEAR!



All Natural Homeopathic / Herbal Formulas

- **Clear Headache™** - Provides safe and effective relief from headache pain.
- **Clear Shingles, Herpes & UTI's™** - Provides fast effective relief of the symptoms associated with cold sores, herpes, shingles and urinary tract infections
- **Clear Tinnitus®** - For the temporary relief of that annoying buzzing, ringing, hissing or roaring in your head known as Tinnitus.
- **Clear Sinus & Ear®** - Safe relief from sinus congestion, hay fever, cold symptoms, allergies, and ear pain & tenderness. Used safely by pilots and scuba divers.
- **Clear Motion & Digestive Aid™** - Safe relief from abdominal distention, bloating, general nausea, and motion sickness.
- **Clear Migraine™** - Promotes relief from migraine pain without side effects or dependency. Best taken at the onset of a migraine.

THANK YOU TROOPS!



We appreciate what you do!
As our Thanks to You, visit our web site to receive a 10% discount.

When ordering click on the "Redeem Coupon" icon and type in "GOSA1"

www.clearproductsinc.com

Manufactured by CLEAR PRODUCTS, INC.™ San Diego, CA.

New anti-Syria protest draws many thousands

BY SAM F. GHATTAS

The Associated Press

BEIRUT, Lebanon — Hundreds of thousands of opposition demonstrators chanted "Freedom, sovereignty, independence" and unfurled a huge Lebanese flag in Beirut on Monday, the biggest protest yet in the opposition's duel of street rallies with supporters of the Damascus-backed government.

Crowds of men, women and children flooded Martyrs Square, spilling over into nearby streets, while more from across the country packed the roads into Beirut. "We are coming to liberate our country. We are coming to de-

mand the truth," said Fatma Trad, a veiled Sunni Muslim woman who traveled from the remote region of Dimniyeh in northern Lebanon to take part.

The assassination of former Prime Minister Rafik Hariri exactly one month ago sparked the series of protests against Syria, the dominant power in Lebanon.

The throngs fell silent at 12:55 p.m. — the exact time Hariri was shot four weeks ago by a huge bomb in Beirut. The silence was broken only by church bells tolling and the flutter of flags.

Monday's protest easily topped a pro-government rally of hundreds of thousands of people last week by the Shiite Muslim mili-

tary group Hezbollah. That show of strength forced the opposition to try to regain its momentum.

Syria's military withdrawal continued Monday, with intelligence agents closing two offices in the northern towns of Amoun and Deir Ammar, on the coastal road between the port of Tripoli and the Syrian border. Intelligence agents also dismantled two checkpoints in the Akkar area. About 50 intelligence agents in all departed for unknown destinations, although it was believed to be northern Syria.

The opposition is demanding a full Syrian withdrawal, the resignations of Lebanese security chiefs and an international inves-



Opposition protesters carry placards against Syrian president Bashar Assad and his late father, Hafez, during a demonstration Monday in Lebanon. Hundreds of thousands of Lebanese answered a call for a massive protest to demand a full Syrian troop withdrawal.

tigation into Hariri's Feb. 14 assassination.

A senior Lebanese army officer said Sunday that 4,000 Syrian soldiers — more than a quarter of

those serving in Lebanon just a week ago — have been brought back to Syria.

Zeina Karam of The Associated Press contributed to this report.

Israel's Sharon approves final route for barrier wall

BY MARK LAVIE

The Associated Press

JERUSALEM — Prime Minister Ariel Sharon has approved the final route of a barrier around Jerusalem that will include the largest Jewish settlement in the West Bank on the Israeli side, officials said Monday, prompting Palestinian complaints that Israel is endangering peace efforts.

The decision means the barrier will encompass lands claimed by the Palestinians for a future state, including traditionally Arab east Jerusalem, the intended Palestinian capital. The barrier also will include a chunk of the Palestinian town of Bethlehem, south of Jerusalem, to encompass a Jewish shrine, officials said.

Israel began building a separation barrier in the West Bank two years ago, saying its aim was to keep out Palestinian attackers.

Palestinians say Israel could have built the barrier on its own

territory if the only concern was security. They say the real intention was to grab West Bank land and draw a final border without waiting for a peace deal.

Palestinian negotiator Saeb Erekat warned that approval of the Jerusalem segment could destroy efforts to revive peace talks.

"This is a policy of dictation and not negotiation," Erekat said. "This prejudices and prejudices the outcome of permanent status negotiations."

The barrier — a complex of walls, fences, trenches, barbed wire and electronic devices — is expected to run about 425 miles.

One-third of the barrier has been completed.

In the West Bank city of Ramallah, U.N. Secretary-General Kofi Annan said after a meeting with Palestinian leader Mahmoud Abbas that the United Nations is establishing a register of damages to Palestinian property and



A demonstrator hangs with a rock on the gate of the Palestinian Authority presidential compound as Palestinian Authority President Mahmoud Abbas meets U.N. Secretary-General Kofi Annan during a demonstration against Israel's separation barrier in Ramallah.

claims against Israel resulting from the barrier construction.

"We are establishing that register to be able in time to help with those claims," he said.

As Annan spoke, Palestinian policemen restrained hundreds of demonstrators at the main gate of the government compound.

The demonstrators carried

signs reading, "Resist the wall until its collapse," and "Bring down the wall," and scuffled with policemen, throwing rocks at the main gate of the compound.

Annan said the U.N. position on the barrier is clear. The General Assembly has passed a resolution against the barrier, and the U.N.'s world court said in an advisory ruling last year it was illegal and must be torn down.

The decision on the final route of the Jerusalem segment of the barrier was made late Sunday in a meeting of senior Cabinet ministers chaired by Sharon, a senior government official said on condition of anonymity.

Under the plan, prepared by the National Security Council, the West Bank settlement of Maaleh Adumim would be included on Israel's side of the barrier. Eleven crossings would be built into the barrier to allow access from the West Bank, and construction will be completed by year's end, the official said.

Afghan girls still forced into marriage

BY MATTHEW PENNINGTON

The Associated Press

KABUL, Afghanistan — Bibi, 14, has never seen the father who wants to sell her into marriage with a stranger.

She hid when he sent police to her village home in northern Afghanistan a month ago. Her elder brother Kareem refused to hand her over and was dragged off to jail. But Bibi found sanctuary with a sympathetic relative in Kabul, where she now lives in fear her father will one day catch up with her.

The relative, Shahzad, said the girl's father is not interested in finding a suitable mate for his daughter and only wants to get his hands on the dowry.

Bibi's story is far from unique. Despite the re-emergence of democracy and women's rights in Afghanistan, human rights officials say between 60 percent and 80 percent of marriages in the country are forced on women.

Girls and women are often wedded off for economic gain or to settle scores between feuding families, even though both practices run counter to civil and Islamic law. While marriages arranged by families are the norm in this conservative Muslim country, they are meant to have the consent of the bride and groom.

In Bibi's case the groom is a wealthy, older man looking for a second wife. Her relatives reckon he is willing to pay about \$7,000 for her — a small fortune in one of the world's poorest countries.

"My father does not care about my life," said Bibi, who never brought clothes or food. My family is my mother and Kareem."

Bibi, Shahzad and Kareem — who was recently released from jail — agreed to speak to The Associated Press in hope that publicizing the girl's plight might stop her estranged father from forcing her into marriage. The fa-

ther, Rafur, could not be reached for comment.

Shahzad said she doesn't want Bibi to suffer the same fate as the girl's mother — forced by violence into a loveless union. After her first husband died, she was compelled to marry Rafur, his brother, who beat her when she resisted. The marriage — a customary match for an Afghan widow — broke down two years later.

Rafur only returned into their lives when Bibi was 14 and deemed by him ready for marriage — although still two years below the legal age for women.

Fawzia Amini, deputy director of the law and rights department at the Ministry of Women's Affairs, said the department investigates about 500 cases a year of abuse against women.

She said victims can seek legal support for getting a divorce, but such a step is so socially detrimental to the woman that it's usually better to try to force the husband to cooperate with authorities and rescue the marriage.

Bibi, 14, a shy ethnic-Pashtun Afghan girl, is hiding from her father, who wants to force her into marriage to an older man she doesn't know.

AP

IN THE STATES

Mfume announces 2006 Senate run

BALTIMORE — Former NAACP President Kweisi Mfume announced Monday that he will run for the U.S. Senate in 2006.

"It is with great pride and deep humility that I announce to you today my candidacy for the Senate of the United States," Mfume said at a news conference in Baltimore.

Mfume, who was a five-term U.S. congressman before becoming president of the Baltimore-based National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, issued the statement after incumbent Paul Sarbanes announced Friday that he will not run for re-election.

Jackson's accuser back on stand

SANTA MARIA, Calif. — Michael Jackson's attorney challenged the credibility of the pop star's accuser Monday by cross-examining him about similarities between a statement he testified Jackson made and a statement the boy had attributed to his grandmother.

Cross-examination of the 15-year-old who claims Jackson molested him resumed after a three-day break in testimony.

Attorney Thomas Mesereau Jr. recalled that the boy testified Thursday that Jackson told him that if men don't masturbate they might rape women. The attorney noted that the boy told sheriff's investigators in an interview that his grandmother had told him the same thing.

New Disney CEO named

LOS ANGELES — Michael Eisner, the longtime CEO of The Walt Disney Co., will step down a year earlier than expected, handing over the reins to Robert Iger and ending a tumultuous stint atop the entertainment giant.

Iger, 54, the firm's current president and chief operating officer, is slated to succeed Eisner as chief executive. He will assume his new role Oct. 1, Disney's board said.

From The Associated Press

Ex-Bush adviser Hughes tapped for State post

BY ANNE GEARAN

The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Declaring the United States must do a "better job of engaging the Muslim world," Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice introduced former presidential adviser Karen Hughes Monday as the Bush administration's choice for a State Department post designed to change Islamic perceptions about America.

"I'm eager to listen and to learn," said Hughes, who, pending confirmation by the Senate, would become undersecretary of state for public diplomacy with the rank of ambassador.

Rice said the United States must do much more to counter the "hateful propaganda" that is so common in the Islamic world. She said Hughes believes strongly that the United States "must mobilize young people around the world to shatter the mistrust of past grievances and

to foster a new spirit of tolerance and mutual respect."

Also at attendance at the ceremony was Dina Powell, an Egyptian-born former White House aide who is slated to be a top aide to Hughes.

Hughes, who for years has had a major voice in crafting President Bush's domestic message, is a former counselor to the president who left the White House in 2002 to move her family back to Texas.

She is also a former Texas television reporter. She has continued to advise the president from her home in Austin. Although not a diplomat by training, Hughes had a hand in several foreign policy initiatives during Bush's first term, including efforts to promote democracy and improve the lives of women and children in Afghanistan.

Hughes and Powell will focus on Bush's plan to spread democracy in the Middle East, an effort that has gained momentum with recent elections in Iraq and the Palestinian territories.



Hughes

Love Stars and Stripes' Photo of the Day feature?



You can now own prints of the memorable images of service members, statesmen, celebrities and civilians taken by Stars and Stripes photographers, as shown in the Photo of the Day Feature in Stars and Stripes website.

Please visit www.strips.com and click on the Photo of the Day button, to access our online photo store.

STARS AND STRIPES
Your Hometown Newspaper

Ga. hostage recalls ordeal with escapee

BY ELLIOTT C. McLAUGHLIN

The Associated Press

ATLANTA — As the Fulton County Courthouse reopened Monday — nearly 72 hours after a judge, deputy and court stenographer were shot dead there Friday — accounts emerged detailing the ordeal of the woman whom the alleged gunman held hostage before she notified police of his whereabouts.

The woman, Ashley Smith, came forward Sunday saying Brian Nichols let her go after they bonded while discussing God, family, pancakes and the massive manhunt going on outside her apartment.

Authorities said the rampage started when Nichols overpowered a sheriff's deputy who was transporting Nichols for the resumption of his trial on rape and other charges.

Nichols could appear in court as early as Tuesday, authorities said.

Judge Rowland Barnes and his court stenographer, Julie Brandau, had been working Nichols' trial when they were killed. Sheriff's Sgt. Hoyt Teasley was killed outside the courthouse, and U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement agent David Wilhelm was killed later.

Smith was hailed as a hero for the way she handled herself after Nichols confronted her in the parking lot of her apartment when she returned from a store around 2 a.m. Saturday.

"She acted very cool and levelheaded," said Gwinnett County Police Officer Darren Moloney. "It was an absolutely best-case scenario that happened, a complete opposite of what you expected to happen."

Over the course of the night, Nichols untied Smith, and some of the fear lessened as they talked. Nichols told Smith he felt like "he was already dead," but Smith urged him to consider the fact that he was still alive a "miracle."

"I believe God brought him to my door," Smith said Sunday.

"You're here in my apartment for some reason," she told him, saying he might be destined to be caught and to spread the word of God to fellow prisoners.

After Smith left the apartment and called police, officers soon surrounded her suburban apartment complex and Nichols gave up peacefully, waving a white towel in surrender.

"I honestly think when I looked at him that he didn't want to do it anymore," Smith said. If he did



ATLANTA JOURNAL CONSTITUTION/AP

Ashley Smith recounts her hostage experience with murder suspect Brian Nichols during an interview Sunday in Atlanta. Smith said her ordeal began when a man sticking a gun in her side and tying her up, but ended with the weapons on the floor as he let her go to see her young daughter.

not give up, she told him, "Lots more people are probably going get hurt and you're probably going to die." Choking back tears Sunday, she said she told Nichols that her husband died four years ago and if he hurt her, her little girl wouldn't have a mother or father. Smith's attorney, Josh Archer, said her husband died in her arms after being stabbed. Smith's 5-year-old daughter was not at the apartment during the ordeal.

The two talked about the Bible and she handed him photos of her family. When morning came, Smith said, Nichols was "overwhelmed" when she made him pancakes with real butter. He told her he "just wanted some normalness to his life," she said.

When Nichols finally let Smith go to a planned meeting with her daughter, he said he wanted to stay at the apartment for a few more days.

The Atlanta Journal-Constitution reported Monday that a courthouse surveillance camera recorded Nichols' initial surprise attack on Deputy Cynthia Hall but that no one in the control center noticed the assault.

A video camera that is supposed to be monitored by two guards in a command post shows Nichols lunging at Hall and knocking her backward, according to a law enforcement official who saw the tape.

BTK profile on, off target

Developing pre-arrest theories is not an exact science

BY DANA STRONGIN
Knight Ridder/Tribune

WICHITA, Kan. — Criminal profilers. Wichita police. A psychic. BTK himself.

Since the serial killer first struck Wichita in 1974, a lot of people have shared theories about him: where he worked, his behaviors, his hobbies.

Now, after 31 years, a suspect has been arrested. Dennis Rader, charged with 10 BTK killings, has been in jail for two weeks.

Do the pre-arrest theories about BTK match up to the man charged with the crimes? In some ways, yes. Police and others thought he might belong in the commu-

nity. Rader, a Boy Scout leader and president of his church council, was a college-educated, working family man in Park City, Kan.

In other ways, no. Police said BTK had a lifetime fascination with trains. Rader's younger

brother Jeff said he was the train lover in the family, not Dennis.

The idea that BTK was a part of the community was dating back in the late '70s, said Richard LaMunyon, who was police chief from 1976 to 1989. It went against the general profile, the kind you see in made-for-TV movies: the serial killer as a loner, a man with no romantic prospects and an unsteady work history.

However, it wasn't exactly strange to suggest that BTK hung around Wichita State University, said Brian Withrow, an assistant professor of criminal justice at the university.

"They kept saying he was connected to WSU," he said. "Name five people in Wichita who ain't."

Withrow said he couldn't think of a case in which a pretty lady led to the apprehension of a person.

Although profiles draw on experts, some of them scientists, it's a "very subjective" kind of science, he said.

The possibility that BTK could be someone's neighbor was why police released a detailed list of potential BTK traits last late year, Withrow said.

The November list was culled from the serial killer's communications, police said.

Police had no choice but to release the description and assume it was accurate, Withrow said.

"If they had decided to not release it, they would run the risk of when they did catch the guy, he would say, 'Look, I told you who I was. But you didn't release the information.'"

A Minneapolis, Minn., profiler said police should have released more information about BTK and the killings.

The sooner police release details about a homicide, the more likely they are to get useful tips from the public, said Pat Brown, who has assisted police elsewhere by creating criminal profiles.

"It's always kind of amusing to listen to individuals, especially people who aren't directly related to this investigation, make their forecast as to what kind of individual this is," LaMunyon said.

"They don't have all the facts."

Someday we'll know more about BTK's background and what led him to kill, LaMunyon said. Any profiles developed during the investigation played only a small part in the case.

"You have to apply all of that knowledge — evidence, the victims — then you come up with a picture."

Study challenges 'adult time for adult crime' policies for youths

BY GREG SUKIENNIK
The Associated Press

BOSTON — Treating offenders under the age of 18 as adults in the criminal justice system makes it more likely they will re-offend when they emerge from prison, according to a national study of youthful offender laws.

The Coalition for Juvenile Justice, in a study titled "Childhood on Trial," said "adult time for adult crime" policies have failed.

It hopes to restore the authority of juvenile court judges to determine if juveniles should be tried as adults and to hold the bound-

ary between childhood and adulthood at age 18.

The group said the judicial system's responsibilities are to give young offenders opportunities to make positive changes and set things right, while meeting out punishment fairly.

"One way to do so is to ensure that juvenile offenders are provided with the rehabilitative services and resources generally available in the juvenile justice system — and to reserve the use of adult sanctions for those older, chronic juvenile offenders for whom the juvenile courts resources have been exercised and exhausted."

In 13 states, defendants over the age of 17 are sent into the adult criminal justice system for any offense.

The study said that in states with large numbers of youths in adult prisons, those youths are more likely to re-offend when they emerge from prison. It said teenagers in adult prisons are more vulnerable to adult criminals and are often mentored by powerful inmates, resulting in them being released as hardened, angry and possessing increased criminal skills.

The study was scheduled to be released Monday at Northeastern University.

Recent arrests surprise mobsters, NYPD

The Associated Press

NEW YORK — It's getting harder to tell the cops from the crooks around here.

Imagine the surprise of 32 mobsters arrested this week, including the head of the Gambino family, only to discover their brother-in-fierarms of the last two years was an undercover FBI agent doing an Al Pacino impersonation.

And imagine the disgust of New York police officials when a pair of retired detectives were arrested in an Italian restaurant on the Las Vegas strip, charged as mob hitmen responsible for eight mur-

ders and a failed plot to kill turncoat snitch "The Bull" Gravano. The stunning mob stories broke on consecutive days in New York, still the center of the Mafia universe and home to five of its crime families. As details emerged, both tales assumed a Hollywood patina: the FBI agent was right out of "Donnie Brasco," the head of the two detectives had a bit part in "Goodfellas."

The Brasco sequel came 24 years after FBI agent Joe Pistone, in the first case of its kind, infiltrated the Bonanno family. Like Pistone, the unidentified agent accepted by the once-mighty Gambino family was uniquely gifted.

More importantly to his associates in the Gambino family, the 50-something mob wannabe could deliver stolen watches, jewelry, plasma televisions. It wasn't until last Wednesday, when federal agents arrested 32 of them, that the mobsters discovered his true affiliation.

"They were all shocked," said Matt Heron, the New York-based FBI official who ran the two-year undercover operation.

Although the agent remains unidentified, FBI officials described him as a law enforcement veteran and a family man, with undercover experience and unfailing instincts.



Judy Neal works on a will in her Cincinnati home in February. In the foreground is an example of an ethical will, a centuries-old practice of passing along values, beliefs and personal experiences to loved ones.

Ethical will adds human touch to estate planning

BY LISA CORNWELL
The Associated Press

CINCINNATI — Judy Neal hopes she instilled some of her values in her son. But just in case, she wrote it down.

"Try to see both sides of a story," she wrote in her ethical will, "Look beyond the surface and the obvious. It took me a while to learn this."

The use of ethical will — a centuries-old practice of passing along beliefs, values and personal experiences to loved ones — has begun to re-emerge as catastrophic events underline the unpredictability of life and many see society as increasingly materialistic and transient.

The wills are not legally enforceable. But the founder of an elder law firm in Sarasota, Fla., said he suggests them to clients because they add more humanity to estate planning.

"When you focus strictly on transmitting wealth and property, it can make it a very cold and heartless process for everyone," said Ira Wiesner of Advocates in Aging.

Organizations such as the AARP, the American Society on Aging, and the Spiritual Eldering Institute, have included the topic in their magazines and conferences. Spiritual counselors and health care specialists include it in courses, and financial advisers and estate attorneys discuss ethical wills with clients.

"People often feel invincible until they see a catastrophic event like 9/11 or the tsunami and realize that no one knows what will happen tomorrow and they better

leave something to tell people who they were," said Karen Russell, founder and executive director of the Los Angeles-based National Grief Support Services Inc.

"Even soldiers in Iraq are realizing this and writing their own forms of ethical wills to let their families know what to remember about them if they don't make it home."

Dr. Barry Baines, associate medical director of Hospice of the Twin Cities, said the 75 hits or so daily on an ethical will Web site he began in 1999 jumped after the Sept. 11, 2001, terrorist attacks and now average about 800.

Baines, author of "Ethical Wills: Putting your Values on Paper," said many contacting him are baby boomers who realize their parents' generation is disappearing and that they also are aging.

"More and more of them are deciding that they want and need to leave behind more than just money and possessions," the Minneapolis doctor said.

While anyone can jot down their thoughts for family and friends, the formalized ethical will offers a document more likely to be preserved through the years.

In Neal's case, her parents left no permanent record of their values and beliefs that could be passed on to future generations. "There are so many things I won't ever know about their thoughts and experiences," said Neal, 58. "I hope that my son has picked up some of my values and beliefs through the years, but I also want his children and their children to know who I was."

Judge: Calif. marriage law is unconstitutional

BY LISA LEFF

The Associated Press

SAN FRANCISCO — A judge ruled Monday that California's ban on gay marriage is unconstitutional, saying the state could no longer justify limiting marriage to a man and a woman.

In the eagerly awaited opinion, likely to be appealed to the state's highest court, San Francisco County Superior Court Judge Richard Kramer said that withholding marriage licenses from gays and lesbians is unconstitutional.

"It appears that no rational purpose exists for limiting marriage in this state to opposite-sex partners," Kramer wrote.

The judge wrote that the state's historical

Kramer says state could no longer justify limiting marriage to a man and a woman

cal definition of marriage, by itself, cannot justify the denial of equal protection for gays and lesbians.

"The state's protracted denial of equal protection cannot be justified simply because such constitutional violation has become traditional," Kramer wrote.

Kramer ruled in lawsuits brought by the city of San Francisco and a dozen same-sex couples last March. The suits were brought after the California Supreme Court halted a four-week marriage spree that Mayor

Gavin Newsom had initiated in February 2004 when he directed city officials to issue marriage licenses to gays and lesbians in defiance of state law.

The plaintiffs said withholding marriage licenses from gays and lesbians trespasses on the civil rights all citizens are guaranteed under the California Constitution.

Robert Tyler, an attorney with the conservative Alliance Defense Fund, said the group would appeal Kramer's ruling.

Attorney General Bill Lockyer has said

in the past that he expected the matter eventually would have to be settled by the California Supreme Court.

A pair of bills pending before the California Legislature would put a constitutional amendment banning same-sex marriage on the November ballot. If California voters approve such an amendment, as those in 13 other states did last year, that would put the issue out of the control of lawmakers and the courts.

In a hearing in December, Senior Assistant Attorney General Louis Mauro acknowledged that California is "a leader in affording rights" to same-sex couples. But he maintained that the state has a defensible reason for upholding the existing definition of marriage as part of an important tradition.

Smallest infant to have robotic surgery recovers

BY TODD DVORAK

The Associated Press

IOWA CITY, Iowa — Amber Vairo has grown two inches and gained nearly a pound, and the three tiny scars on her belly have all but vanished — along with any doubts she'll survive a complex surgery to fix a life-threatening condition.

Last month, at just 5.6 pounds and six days after birth, Amber became the smallest patient in the world to undergo robotic surgery of any kind, according to her doctors

at the University of Iowa Hospital and Clinics.

She was born with a hole in her diaphragm, the abdominal muscle that is critical to breathing and forms a wall between the chest and abdomen.

The condition, called congenital diaphragmatic hernia, can be fatal because the hole allows the intestines to migrate into the chest, putting pressure on the heart, lungs and spleen that can stunt organ growth or shut them down altogether.

"All signs are that she is recover-

ing and will be just fine," said Amber's mother, Nicole Hines, who brought the infant home for the first time last week.

"She is gaining about an ounce a day and eating every two or three hours. It was all very stressful for a while. But I'm very glad with the way things went."

So are doctors.

Amber's condition, known as a Bochdalek hernia, affects about one in 3,000 babies and has a 25 percent mortality rate, said Dr. John Meehan, who led Amber's surgical team.



Nicole Hines of Chariton, Iowa, pats the head of her daughter, Amber Vairo, at University Hospital on March 3 in Iowa City, Iowa.

YOUTH EASTER CELEBRATION



Saturday, March 26
at Yokosuka Naval Base
Eggstravaganza from 0930 to 1200

\$5 per child over 1 year old. Parents are free.

Fee includes:

- Sesame Street Show
- Face Painting
- Soft Playroom
- Air Toys
- Arts and Crafts area



Sesame Street Show in Thew Gym

1100 to 1130

Meet and Greet with the Characters

1150 to 1215

Additional charge:

- Professional picture with the Easter Bunny
- Breakfast food and beverages



There will be one secret prize egg per division.
Areas are subject to change. Stay tuned to the Seahawk
for possible changes or call 241-4891.



Volunteer pilots train to disarm a potential hijacker during in a weapon retention class at the Federal Law Enforcement Training Center in Brunswick, Ga.

Gun-in-the-cockpit program progress upsetting to pilots

BY LESLIE MILLER
The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — While the pace of training and deployment of armed pilots on commercial flights has picked up, supporters of the program say the Bush administration still is making it unnecessarily difficult for crews to take guns into the cockpit.

Pilots monitoring the program estimate between 4,000 and 4,500 have been trained and deputized to carry guns since the Federal Flight Deck Officer program began April 2003. That is about three times as many as a year ago, yet a fraction of the 95,000 pilots flying for U.S. airlines.

David Mackett, president of the Airline Pilots Security Alliance, a group formed to lobby for guns in the cockpit, said tens of thousands of his colleagues are interested in the program.

"We have an armed pilots program that's arming very few pilots," said Mackett, who has not

signed up because of the way the program is run. He said many others won't join for the same reason.

Mackett contends the Transportation Security Administration isn't moving to get substantially more pilots trained to carry guns because it has never really wanted the program.

TSA spokesman Mark Hatfield disputed that, saying agency chief David Stone fully backs the effort and that procedures have been changed to more quickly get pilots into the program.

"I've got a pipeline with a couple of thousand applicants and we're running two full classes a week," Hatfield said. The TSA can train about 50 pilots per class. Last year, Congress failed to pass a bill that would speed the application and training process, allow pilots to carry guns in holders and let those among them with military or law enforcement backgrounds carry guns immediately.

Mackett said the pilots will try again this year.

Report: Aviation security system still is susceptible

The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — The nation's aviation system remains vulnerable to attacks by al-Qaida and other terrorists who may be targeting noncommercial aircraft and helicopters, according to a government report.

But officials said the report by the Homeland Security Department and FBI concludes that commercial airlines also remain susceptible to attack, despite billions of dollars worth of security investments. Moreover, members of al-Qaida are believed to be examining and testing security systems for weaknesses, officials said.

The confidential report, dated Feb. 25, reflects what officials have long said: that beefing up security in one sector would inevitably prompt terrorists to target other areas that might not be under the same level of scrutiny.

However, the report, drafts of which have been circulating since late last year, is the first to pull the intelligence together in a single package, officials said.

It was distributed to state, local and private sector officials who deal with counterterrorism concerns, said Homeland Security spokesman Brian Roehrkasse.

Former Democratic leader Daschle joins Washington law firm as a policy adviser

The Associated Press

STOUX FALLS, S.D. — Former Senate Democratic leader Tom Daschle plans to put his 26 years of experience in Congress to work at a Washington, D.C., law firm as a public policy adviser.

Daschle, who lost a re-election bid in November to Republican John Thune, said he won't lobby for Alston & Bird LLP, but will advise its clients on topics with which he's familiar.

"I want to continue my involvement in the pub-

lic policy issues that I care a great deal about. Those issues include energy, Native American health care, international trade, agriculture and technology," he said Sunday in a telephone interview from his Washington home.

One of things he'll do is counsel clients on how to work through legal and regulatory hurdles in Washington and internationally, he said.

Daschle joins former Kansas Sen. Bob Dole, who is already in the company's legislative and public policy group.

Cents and Sensibility Money tip of the day

Stomping out gas myths

MarketWatch

NEW YORK — Gas prices are forecast to rise further, and the media are filled with tips on how to save on gas and get better mileage from your vehicle.

Unfortunately, with the good tips and tricks comes misinformation that can actually cost you time and money. So says Mark A. Baxter, director of the Maguire Energy Institute at Southern Methodist University in Dallas.

He offers this advice on two less-than-useful tricks:

Myth: Once you've filled your tank, twist the gas pump nozzle and tip up the hose to drain any last remnants of gasoline into your tank.

Believers claim this can put as much as an extra half-pump in your tank.

Truth: "I don't think it's worth the value for your time and effort, but it is a few drops of gasoline," Baxter says. However,

don't expect to get anywhere near a half-pump.

Myth: Buying your gasoline in the evening morning or in the evening when it is cooler outside will save you money. Gas is moderately denser in cold temperatures. Proponents of this money-saver say that because gas pumps measure fuel volume rather than density, you'll get more for your money if you buy fuel when it's cool outside.

Truth: "You're not going to see much difference if you fill up on a 50-degree day or if you fill up on an 80-degree day," Baxter says.

That's because at filling stations, the gas is kept underground where the temperature is fairly stable.

Following this myth can even cost you time and money. Many people fuel up on their way to or from work, so you'll end up spending more time in line, idling your engine as you wait — and wasting gas.

EXCHANGE RATES

Military rates	
Japanese yen (March 14)	102.00
South Korean won (March 12)	976.00
Euro cents (March 14)	1.3768
Dollar buys (March 14)	69.7263
British pound (March 14)	81.58
Commercial rates	
Bahrain (Dinar)	0.377
British pound	1.3025
Canada (Dollar)	0.7043
Denmark (Krone)	5.53
Egypt (Pound)	2.796
EUR	\$1,349.9743
Hong Kong (Dollar)	0.785
Hungary (Forint)	180.33
Indonesia (Rupiah)	1,368
Israel (Shekel)	4.2935
Japan (Yen)	109.68
Kuwait (Dinar)	2.2919
Malaysia (Ringgit)	0.6715
Philippines (Peso)	1.2695
Saudi Arabia (Riyal)	2.9375
Singapore (Dollar)	1.315
South Korea (Won)	1,090.20
Switzerland (Franc)	1.038
Thailand (Baht)	38.25
Turkey (New Lira)	205

(Military exchange rates are those available to customers at military banking facilities in the country of issuance for Japan, South Korea, Germany, the Netherlands and the United Kingdom. For non-military currency exchange rates (i.e., purchasing British pounds in Germany), check with your local military banking facility. Commercial rates are interbank rates used for reference when buying currency. All figures are foreign currency to the dollar, except for the British pound, which is represented in dollars to the euro and the euro, which is represented in dollars to the euro.)

PRECIOUS METALS

New York Merc close	
Gold	\$446.20
Silver	\$7.535

INTEREST RATES

Prime rate	5.50
Discount rate	3.50
Federal funds market rate	2.50
3-month bill	2.50
30-year bond	4.65
Source: The Associated Press, Bank of America	

C'mon Get Happy!



Welcoming Baby Rachel!

Create a memory for life!

Get your Happy Ad in Stripes today!
Want to hook up with an old friend?
Send your girlfriend a birthday greeting?
Or congratulate your friend on a recent promotion?
Whatever the occasion, book your Happy Ad today in Stars and Stripes!

Check out the details:

1. Email your greeting and digital photo to classifieds@stripes.com.
2. Stars and Stripes reserves the right to edit or reject any Happy Ad.
3. A one-time \$30 fee for each ad must be prepaid prior to publication. You may opt to use a credit card or you may use the nearest Stars and Stripes circulation office and pay by check.



• Ads will run in the classified section.

Email classifieds@stripes.osd.mil or call DSN 229-3276

Your Hometown Newspaper
STARS AND STRIPES

FACES

No strings attached

Even with no guitar, British rock band Keane is winning devoted fans on both sides of the pond

BY ROSS RAHILA

Night Rider Newspapers

The British trio Keane has experienced the sort of year most young bands would kill for, selling millions of records in Europe, winning two Brit Awards (England's answer to the Grammys) and performing to sellout crowds around the world.

But what made the group, which seems set to reach Coldplay-like heights of fame, really nervous? Appearing on "Saturday Night Live" last month alongside guest host Paris Hilton.

"It was scary, probably the most nerve-wracking thing we've had to do," said lead singer Tom Chaplin during a phone interview from Boston.

"After a year of touring, we're used to playing shows. But with something like that, the expectation is so great. The show is an institution in the States."

Keane lived up to the challenge and won over a whole new audience of fans in the process, playing their insanely melodic singles "Everybody's Changing" and "Somewhere Only We Know," a song that got its first blush of exposure in a Victoria's Secret commercial.

Soon after the "SNL" performance, Keane's debut disc, "Hopes and Fears," re-entered the Billboard Top 100, with sales headed toward the million mark. But what about the really important stuff? What's Paris Hilton like?

"She was cool," said Chaplin. "Weirdly enough, she seemed a lot more intelligent and down to earth than she comes across."

It's a polite, mannered answer from a polite, mannered band. "Hopes and Fears" is filled with bright choruses, hummable melodies and an overall sense of nice that has earned Keane plenty of suspicious glances from rock's credibility police.

And then there's Keane's lead guitarist. Or, more ac-

curately, the lack of one.

The band formed in 1997 and kicked around unsuccessfully for years. In 2002, they lost their guitar player and figured they'd have a go without a six-string. "It really was incredibly liberating," Chaplin said. "It forced us to try and change things up a bit. And we've found we can get the songs across in a much more clear way that suits the feel of the music much better."

Tim Rice-Oxley's pianos and synthesizers form the backbone of Keane's music, with live drummer Richard Hughes keeping the songs rooted in rock, rather than dance, music. The pared-back instrumentation also focuses attention on Chaplin's angelic, lilting vocals.

"Every guitar sound has been done to death," Chaplin said. "The piano is a blank canvas. And we've been experimenting with pedals and amps to mess things up a bit. It's really exciting."

While Keane has already connected with American audiences, they're not content to remain a passing fancy in this country.

"Hopes and Fears" produced four hit singles in England, and they're, ahem, keen to replicate that success here. Chaplin said his band plans to spend much of the year touring the States.

"Whatever band you talk about, like U2 or Radiohead, there's an electricity about what they do," Chaplin said.

"They have songs that really connect with people and give them a true emotional experience. We aspire to that, and we're willing to put in the time."

"Every guitar sound has been done to death. The piano is a blank canvas. And we've been experimenting with pedals and amps to mess things up a bit. It's really exciting."

Tom Chaplin

Lead singer

British rock group Keane has made an impact on the American music charts after appearing on "Saturday Night Live." Lead singer Tom Chaplin, right, said appearing on "SNL" was "nerve-wracking."

ABACA PRESS/KRT

Swank fights New Zealand customs fine

Hilary Swank, the Oscar-winning star of fight flick "Million Dollar Baby," is going toe-to-toe with New Zealand authorities over a \$150 fine for bringing fruit into the country, local media reported Sunday.

Swank was fined in January for failing to declare an apple and an orange in her luggage when she arrived at Auckland International Airport, The Sunday Star-Times newspaper reported.

"It's a pretty standard practice to issue an instant fine for a biosecurity risk," said Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry spokesman William Minchin.

Thousands of visitors arriving in New Zealand each year are fined on the spot for not declaring products such as fruit, which cannot be imported into New Zealand, and hundreds contest the fines, Minchin said.

New Zealand is largely free of pests, which cause billions of dollars in damage to crops and livestock in other parts of the world and has strict quarantine guidelines.

Swank has instructed lawyers to appear in court next week to contest the fine, the paper reported.



Swank

Sampras, wife expecting second child

Former tennis star Pete Sampras and his wife are expecting a second child.

Sampras and actress Bridgette Wilson-Sampras are due to have the child this fall, their publicist, Deborah Grimes, said in a statement.

The couple married in September 2000. Their son, Christian Sampras, is 2.

In 1990, Sampras beat rival Andre Agassi in the final to become, at 19, the youngest champion in tournament history.

Sampras retired from the tournament circuit after beating Agassi at the 2002 U.S. Open. Then 31, Sampras became the tournament's oldest winner since 1970.

Brooks takes care of his fan

One Garth Brooks fan who spent \$1,200 to buy a guitar signed by the country singer — only to find out it was a fake — has received an authentic signature.

Toby Bradley, 34, a long-haul trucker, put the guitar for auction on eBay in January hoping to raise \$50,000 for victims of the South Asian tsunami.

Brooks' attorney saw the eBay listing and asked Bradley to send it to him so the signature could be verified. It turned out to be fake, but Brooks signed the guitar and

sent it back to Bradley.

"I appreciate that they made it authentic," Bradley said in a telephone interview with the Yakima Herald-Republic.

He said he was disappointed that he had not talked directly to Brooks, but still thinks Brooks is the greatest entertainer of all time.

Perlman to pay fine for contribution

Actress Rhea Perlman has agreed to a fine against the DeVito Family Trust for failing to file a major donor report on a \$10,000 contribution to Californians for Schwarzenegger in 2003.

The state's Fair Political Practices Commission said it would fine the trust \$400 for failing to disclose political donations during the 2003 gubernatorial recall campaign that put Arnold Schwarzenegger in office.

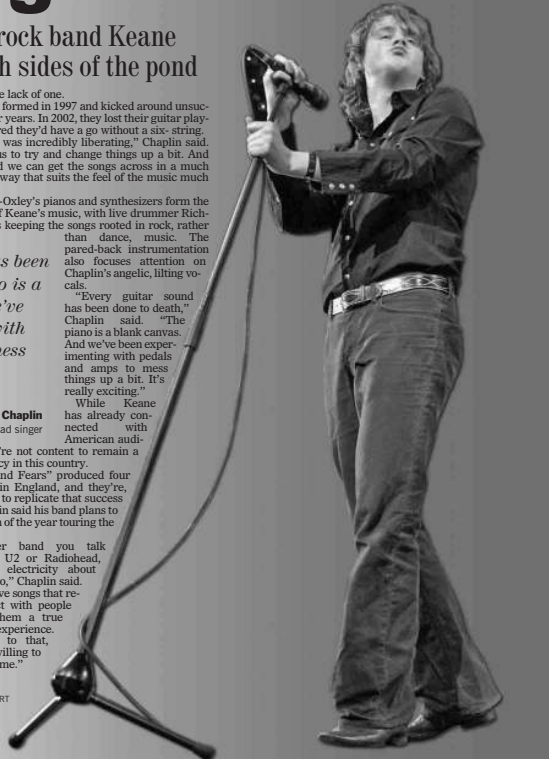
Perlman, who is married to actor and director Danny DeVito, agreed to the fine in January on behalf of the trust.

Perlman could not be reached for comment.

Stories and photos from The Associated Press



Perlman



WEDNESDAY EVENING / MARCH 16, 2000

MOVIES

• **SPORTS**

J	6PM	6:30	7PM	7:30	8PM	8:30	9PM	9:30	10PM	10:30	11PM	11:30
6	AFN-P	***E!Sports	Pacific Report	That '70s Show Eric goes shopping with Jackie. (CC)	Arrested Development Meet Prince again with Michael. (CC)	Extreme Makeover: Home Edition Tugwell Family Drunk drive. (CC)	Lo! All the Best Cowboys Have Daddy Issues I search party ventures into the arid to try to find Claire and Claire. (CC)	Pacific Report	The Tonight Show with Jay Leno (CC)	Late Show with David Letterman (CC)		
7	AFN-AL	(5:45) Oprah Winfrey (CC)	(3:55) Guiding Light (CC)	(1:17) General Hospital	Headline News	Judge Judy (CC)	Today (CC)		The Sylvester & Tweety Mysteries	Butz Lightyear of Star Command		
8	NEWS	The O'Reilly Factor (CC)	Nightline (CC)	Nightly Business Report	Fox and Friends First	American Morning						
9	SPORTS	***[5:00] Sports		***SportsCenter		***Sports				***SportsCenter		
10	SPEC	The Simpsons Marge puts the flem on a diet.	Everybody Loves Raymond Re- euzen Frank.	American Idol (CC)	The O.C. "Pilot" A troubled teenager makes waves in a wealthy harbor-front community.	National Geographic Explorer (CC)	Friends Phoebe's familiarist at birth- day. (CC)	Seinfeld Susan's old resembles (George) mom.	The Daily Show with Jon Stewart	Blind Date (CC)		
11	AFN-FM	Fatherhood Fathers	Rugrats (CC)	Even Stevens	Kenan & Kel	Gilmore Girls (CC)	Degrassi: Next (15)	Degrassi: Next (15)	The Cozby Show	Home Improve.		
12	AFN-MV	Attractions (18)	Ent. Tonight	***The Mexican	(2001) Adventure Squad Film, Julia Roberts.	***Better Luck Tomorrow	(2002, Crime Drama) Danny Ayan teems com- ing in Southern California. (R) (CC)	***Drop Dead Gorgeous	(1999) Kristen Dunst, Ellen Barkin.	***"Rush Hour"		
13	TMC	William Tates 'A New Friend, Ed Eggplant	Comedy-Drama Frances McDormand, Steve Buscemi	***"Fargo"	(1996, Comedy-Drama) Frances McDormand, Steve Buscemi	***"Fargo"	(1996, Comedy-Drama) Frances McDormand, Steve Buscemi	***"Fargo"	(1996, Comedy-Drama) Frances McDormand, Steve Buscemi	***"Fargo"		
14	PBS	Dragon Tales 'A New Friend, Ed Eggplant	Comedy-Drama Frances McDormand, Steve Buscemi	***"Fargo"	(1996, Comedy-Drama) Frances McDormand, Steve Buscemi	***"Fargo"	(1996, Comedy-Drama) Frances McDormand, Steve Buscemi	***"Fargo"	(1996, Comedy-Drama) Frances McDormand, Steve Buscemi	***"Fargo"		
15	SHOW	***"Fargo"	(1996, Comedy-Drama) Frances McDormand, Steve Buscemi	***"Fargo"	(1996, Comedy-Drama) Frances McDormand, Steve Buscemi	***"Fargo"	(1996, Comedy-Drama) Frances McDormand, Steve Buscemi	***"Fargo"	(1996, Comedy-Drama) Frances McDormand, Steve Buscemi	***"Fargo"		
16	DISC	(15) TV Patrol World	Yes, Yes Show	CHN Daybreak	(05) Insider	Special Assignment	Kumikating Kabu- Ayan	Wowowee	(15) Home Boy			
17	TOON	Powerpuff Girls!	Dexter's Laboratory	Encourage the Cow- boy	The Man and the Moose	Justice League	Tim Titans	Cartoon Cartoon Cartoons.	Samurai Jack	The Man and the Moose		
18	ANPL	(5:00) Dog Show	AKC Eukanuba National Championship	More than 3,000 can- ine compete. From Tampa, Fla. (CC)	Dog Show	AKC Eukanuba National Championship	More than 3,000 canines compete. From Tampa, Fla. (CC)					
19	COM	Crank Yankers (N)	South Park Gang (CC)	South Park 4 suspensions	Chappelle's Show (CC)	The Daily Show with Jon Stewart	The Daily Show with Jon Stewart	South Park 4 suspensions	Chappelle's Show (CC)	The Daily Show with Jon Stewart		
20	NGC-A	Dangerous Jobs 'Mine Sweepers'	Snake Wranglers Venomous snakes	South Africa's 'Crook Chronicles'	South Africa's 'Crook Chronicles'	Dogs With Jobs Sled dog in jacket.	Spells Around Hong Kong	Spell of the Tiger	Protecting the President	Hong Kong's Big Bet Tracking Hong Kong's association with the sport of horse racing.		
21	SPICE	***"Kickboxer"	(1989, Adventure) Jean-Claude Van Damme kickboxes avengence after his brother is crippled. (CC)	Dennis Alexio. A kickboxer avengence after his brother is crippled. (CC)	MXC	MXC	World's Wildest Police Videos (CC)	Blind Date (CC)	Shimamets	Maximum Exposure 'Then Friggin' Critters'		
22	FOX	That '70s Show Eric decides to go to the road. (N)	That '70s Show Eric decides to go to the road. (N)	The Simpsons Museum Home- coming. (CC)	Seinfeld Jerry must offers hydra new job.	That '70s Show Eric decides to go to the road. (N)	That '70s Show Eric decides to go to the road. (N)	American Idol Contestants are eliminated. (N)	The Simple Life interns Broadcast ing (N) (CC)	News		
23	BET	Gripfingrids (CC)	Clinic Comic View	Cops A transvestite is arrested and re- leased. (CC)	Cops A transvestite is arrested and re- leased. (CC)	The Investigators 'Lovers' Lead accused killers free the country.	American Idol Contestants are eliminated. (N)	Philly (CC)	Third Watch (CC)	Friends (CC)		
24	COURT	NYPD Blue 'Lies to Mort'	An armored car guard is killed and a bank teller's body is found in a trash bin.	Cops A transvestite is arrested and re- leased. (CC)	Cops A transvestite is arrested and re- leased. (CC)	The Investigators 'Lovers' Lead accused killers free the country.	American Idol Contestants are eliminated. (N)	Philly (CC)	Third Watch (CC)	Friends (CC)		
25	LIFE	***"Love's Deadly Triangle: The Texas Cade Murder"	(1997, Drama) Holly Marie Combs, David Lippner. Race two caddies are charged with the murder of a student. (CC)	***"Love's Deadly Triangle: The Texas Cade Murder"	(1997, Drama) Holly Marie Combs, David Lippner. Race two caddies are charged with the murder of a student. (CC)	***"Love's Deadly Triangle: The Texas Cade Murder"	(1997, Drama) Holly Marie Combs, David Lippner. Race two caddies are charged with the murder of a student. (CC)	***"Love's Deadly Triangle: The Texas Cade Murder"	(1997, Drama) Holly Marie Combs, David Lippner. Race two caddies are charged with the murder of a student. (CC)	***"Love's Deadly Triangle: The Texas Cade Murder"		
26	ARCFM	***"Love's Deadly Triangle: The Texas Cade Murder"	(1997, Drama) Holly Marie Combs, David Lippner. Race two caddies are charged with the murder of a student. (CC)	***"Love's Deadly Triangle: The Texas Cade Murder"	(1997, Drama) Holly Marie Combs, David Lippner. Race two caddies are charged with the murder of a student. (CC)	***"Love's Deadly Triangle: The Texas Cade Murder"	(1997, Drama) Holly Marie Combs, David Lippner. Race two caddies are charged with the murder of a student. (CC)	***"Love's Deadly Triangle: The Texas Cade Murder"	(1997, Drama) Holly Marie Combs, David Lippner. Race two caddies are charged with the murder of a student. (CC)	***"Love's Deadly Triangle: The Texas Cade Murder"		
27	HIST	Modern Marvels 'Ice Road Truckers'	Truckers cross frozen lakes to supply remote Canadian villages. (CC)	Fall Thrillies '1967 VW Beetles'	1967 VW Beetles become drift racing. (CC)	Artillery Games Artillery experts put national weapons to the test. (CC)	Modern Marvels 'Overseas Highway'	The Overseas Highway (CC)	Modern Marvels 'Ice Road Truckers'	Truckers cross frozen lakes to supply remote Canadian villages. (CC)		
28	STR-MV	(5:45) Movie		(20) Movie			Movie			(4:5) Movie		
29	ADV 1	(5:30) Into the Carnage Zone 'Ex- terminator'	Game for it	Total Adventure 'Carnage Zone'	***Adventure Challenge	Two friends at- tempt to cross the entire Nepalese Hi- malayan range by parasailor.	Shoot the Creas- ture "Whistle Lipped Bates"	Chasing Time 'Shadows' and curing.	Game for it	Into the Danger Zone 'Extremes'		
30	MTV	Newlyweds: Nick & Jessica	Newlyweds: Nick & Jessica	Newlyweds: Nick & Jessica	The Ashlee Simp- son Show (N)	Real World: Un- censored	Pimp My Ride Surf for college student.	Borrow My Crew 'Ride a bicycle.	Pimp My Ride 'Ride a bicycle.	Wanna Come In? Cent 8		
31	NICK	Avatar: The Last Airbender	Rugrats 'Back to Savannah'	The Adventures of Jimmy Neutron:	The Fairly Odd- Parents (CC)	SpongeBob Squairers	Unfabulous 'The Pad' Adria has a party.	Full House Michelle learns to ride a bicycle.	The Fresh Prince of Bel-Air The an- nouncement.	The Fresh Prince of Bel-Air The an- nouncement.		
32												

JAPAN T

Morning
10:25 Korean Drama: Lovers in Paris (4)

Afternoon
12:30 Nash Bridges (12)(r)
1:30 U.S. Movie (1989): The Package (2)(r)
3:12 Grand Sumo: The 4th Day (1)
5:00 News (6)

Evening
7:00 News (1)
7:30 8 Simple Rules ... (3)
7:00 Paris Motor Show Grand 2004 (2 of 2)(42)
10:00 News (1)
10:00 America's Top 40 (42)
12:35 Grand Sumo (1)(r)
1:20 Japan Pro Ball: Exhibition Game - Yomiuri Giants vs. Hanshin Tigers (4)
2:34 TV Series: Bull (6)
3:40 Grand Sumo: Bull (1)(r)
4:00 Grand Sumo: Double (1)(r)

JAPAN TV-BS

Morning
6:15 World News
7:15 World News
8:15 World News
9:15 World News Hour
10:10 BS Documentary: Einstein Series (2):
Unfused Theory (r)
11:15 CNN News

Afternoon
12:15 ABC News
2:15 PBS Newshour
3:15 CNN News
4:15 World News
5:15 Asian News

Evening
6:15 CNN News
7:15 News Today: Asia
8:15 News Today: World
9:15 Economic News
10:10 BS Documentary: Einstein Series (3):
Unfused Theory
11:15 BS Documentaries: Lakers vs. Philadel-

- 10 2005 Winter X-Games (8)
- 15 Grand Sumo Tournament
- 15 Asian News
- 15 World Amazing Sports
- 15 Asian News
- 15 World News

WOWOW

Evening
 8:00 Oswald No. 49
 8:30 U.S. Movie (1940): The
 (2:05)
Afternoon
 1:00 TV Series: CSI: Crime S
 tion
 2:00 U.S. Movie (2002): Blue C
 3:00 Oswald No. 49
Evening
 8:00 U.S. Movie (1931): City Li
 8:30 French Movie (2003): Le
 9:40 Usher Live

4:20 U.S. Movie (1994): Pulp Fiction (2:37)

JAPAN TV-BS11

Morning
10:00 Classical Music: Classic Club America
Edition (r)
11:15 Wonderful Nature
Afternoon
1:00 Grand Sumo Tournament, 4th Day (b
qual after 4 p.m.)
Evening
7:00 NHK News
10:05 TV Series: Alias 2

MTV

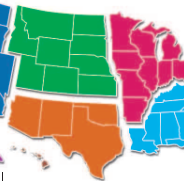
Morning
6:00 Wake Up!
7:00 M Size Tuesday
8:00 Top Choice

11:00 Top Choice
Afternoon
12:00 YATAI
1:30 Pimp My Ride
3:30 Top Choice
2:00 Pure Music
3:00 Top Choice
5:00 U.S. Top 10

Evening
6:00 M Size Wednesday
7:00 Movie: Shark Tale
7:30 Shark Tale Soundtrack
8:00 Diary: Lindsay Lohan
9:30 Dirty Deeds
9:00 Screen Music Video Selection: Eternal
Sunshine of the Spotless Mind
10:30 Making the Video: Jennifer Lopez
10:30 Check the Rhythm
11:00 Faking the Video
11:30 Pure Music
12:00 Rocks
1:30 M Size Wednesday
2:00 Rock On
2:30 Classic
3:00 Fresh

Special treatment

AR LITTLE ROCK — Patients traveling to Arkansas for medical treatment will receive assistance under a program announced at the Little Rock National Airport. The patients will be provided with language translation if they need it, as well as help with baggage and transportation to hotels and hospitals, officials said.



Kinderergarten optional

NH CONCORD — The state Board of Education dropped a plan to require all school districts to offer kindergarten by 2007. Lawmakers said the rule would usurp their authority and force a state program on local districts. New Hampshire is the last state without universal kindergarten; about 15 communities don't offer it.

Limiting cold medicine

MN ST. PAUL — The Minnesota Legislature unanimously passed a bill restricting the sale of cold medicines containing ingredients used to make methamphetamine.

The bill would require Sudafed and Actifed to be kept behind pharmacy counters.

Customers would have to sign for the drugs and would be allowed to buy only two packages at a time.

Fishing-season dispute

FL MADEIRA BEACH — Friends and family of a missing commercial fisherman say a two-week gap between the seasons for amberjack and grouper created an atmosphere in which fishermen felt a need to take more risks.

Friends say the restrictions cost Michael Costello and a crewman their lives. Restrictions are aimed at replenishing dwindling stocks in the Gulf of Mexico.

Obscenity case dropped

KS ABILENE — An obscenity case brought against the Lions' Den Adult Superstore has been dismissed for technical reasons. A Dickinson County grand jury returned a 29-count indictment alleging the store promoted obscenity, but a judge ruled the petition was improperly filled out.

New bishop named

VT BURLINGTON — Monsignor Salvatore Matano, a longtime Rhode Island priest who has worked the last four years at the Vatican's Washington office, was selected by Pope John Paul II to be Vermont's new bishop.

He will take over in August.

Budget unbalanced

WA OLYMPIA — Some state lawmakers want to borrow against future payments from a tobacco settlement to help balance the budget. Gov. Christine Gregoire, who negotiated the deal when she was attorney general, is against that.

The settlement is expected to bring the state \$4 billion over the next 25 years for health services.

Boaters sue state

HI HONOLULU — An organization of boaters who faced eviction from the Ala Wai Harbor

AMERICAN ROUNDUP

is suing the state.

The mariners who live aboard their vessels allege they were improperly evicted from the short-term boat slips at the harbor under a proposed deal between the state and the Waikiki Yacht Club.

The group calls itself the "Displaced Boaters of Ala Wai Harbor."

Group spokesman Jai Lohmeyer said he knew the boat slips were not permanent, but he believes the state should have given more notice to move.

In February, the state gave about a dozen boaters three days to vacate their slips. Eight of the boaters have sued seeking to stay put, and a judge issued a preliminary injunction stopping the evictions until the case is resolved.

City opens rat school

NY NEW YORK — The city has a new weapon in its never-ending battle against rats: a federally funded institute to teach the craft of rodent eradication.

Plans for the Rodent Integrated Pest Control Academy were announced in a hearing before the City Council's health committee.

The academy will train exterminators from the Health Department and other city agencies, said Edgar Butts, an assistant Health Department commissioner.

A three-year, \$600,000 grant



Nap time

One of Jeff King's dogs takes a rest during the Iditarod Trail Sled Dog Race at the Grayling, Alaska, checkpoint.

from the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention will fund the school, for which a coordinator has yet to be appointed.

Among the skills taught will be the proper placement of rat poison.

Shaken baby bill

TX HOUSTON — The deaths of four Texas infants within one week could intensify efforts to approve legislation to educate parents about shaken baby syndrome.

Police in Houston are investigating the deaths of an 8-month-old girl, a 5-month-old boy and a 7-month-old boy. Investigators think their injuries may stem from being shaken aggressively.

In Austin, the father of a 5-month-old boy who died was arrested after being accused of shaking the child to death.

"I think we are going to continue, unfortunately, to have this problem," said state Sen. Eddie Lucio Jr., D-Brownsville. "But the more we educate people, the more we train people to do the right thing with their child as they leave the hospital, obviously the better it will be."

Jailer plays a prank

AR PARAGOULD — A jailer gave a laxative to an inmate who had requested cold medicine, then taunted the man as he suffered severe diarrhea, authorities said.

Johnnie Dallas Pruett, 27, was fired and charged with battery in the March 1 incident involving 19-year-old Darryl R. Bartlett.

Sheriff's Capt. Jamie Martin said after Bartlett asked for cold medicine, Pruett brought him three pink pills and a cup of water. The inmate took the pills, and Pruett began laughing and showed him a box of over-the-counter laxative pills.

Bartlett said that after 90 minutes, he developed severe stomach pains, vomited and had severe diarrhea. He said Pruett taunted him throughout the night and asked if he needed a diaper.

Film scene nearly deadly

GA SAVANNAH — A college student was seriously injured while acting out a hanging for a film project.

Daryl Goins and other students were making a movie for class at his home. The script had class as a hanging by a professor, but Goins, 20, allegedly decided to change the ending.

"There was a suicide scene at the end, and he changed the technique," Geoffrey Jowett, dean of students for Savannah College of Art and Design, told the Savannah Morning News. "It was a hanging, an accident based on the stunt."

Details were sketchy, but during the scene Goins somehow hit his head. Jowett said other students gave him CPR. He was hospitalized in serious condition.

Police have the video and are investigating. The school is reviewing whether to pursue disciplinary action.

Goins was enrolled in an Introduction to Video class. Students at the college are required to take a safety course before filming, sign a contract confining them to have read all safety regulations and have scripts approved by a faculty member.



Becoming an American

Nguyen Ngo, of Vietnam, awaits the start of a swearing-in ceremony at the Bush presidential library in College Station, Texas. Nearly 50 U.S. servicemen were sworn in as U.S. citizens.



Colorful block party

Wil Flores, right, and Belisario Loza start at one of the many vendors at the annual "Calle Ocho" block party in the Little Havana area of Miami. The event marks the end of the carnival festivities.



A fine, feathered friend

Paige, a 10-year-old bald eagle, poses for visitors, in background from left, Debbie LaFreniere and Sharon Bostrom at the Florida Audubon Birds of Prey Center in Maitland, Fla. The center is celebrating its 25th year with an open house.



Fire-breather Daniel Echeverria, 44, poses next to his fire-breathing motorcycle in Daytona Beach, Fla. Echeverria said he spent three years building the bike named Excalibur by hand in his barn in Argentina. Echeverria shipped his creation to Florida for Bike Week.



Luck o' the Irish Melanie Weimer of Scottdale, Pa., dresses as a leprechaun while marching in the St. Patrick's Day Parade in downtown Pittsburgh.



Enjoying spring break Crystal Stevenson, 22, from the University of Indiana, relaxes on the beach at South Padre Island, Texas, while Tony Bickenstaff, 24, from Eastern Illinois University, applies suntan lotion during the annual college spring break.

Guilty plea in murder

NJ CAMDEN — A second man pleaded guilty to the murder of a woman who was abducted from a park-and-ride lot on her way home from work in 2001. Marcus Toliver, 27, admitted killing Christine Eberle, 27, an accountant who lived in Washington Township and worked in Philadelphia. He agreed to the same 43-year prison sentence handed by Judge Thomas, 26, who pleaded guilty in January.

More training for nurses

AR LITTLE ROCK — University of Arkansas athletic director Frank Broyles persuaded legislators to back a bill that would expand training for certified nurses aides in caring for Alzheimer's patients. The Senate committee endorsed the measure, which has passed in the House. Broyles told the panel of his grief during the years he cared for his wife, Barbara, who died last fall after battling Alzheimer's.

Hospital closing

PA PHILADELPHIA — Women's Medical Hospital in Philadelphia is closing its doors. There isn't enough patient revenue to support and maintain the operation of the 50-bed acute-care facility, said Dr. Nancy Pickering, chief executive officer. In recent years, the 500 employees endured hospital name changes, cutbacks, the collapse of the Allegheny Health System in 1998 and the threatened closure by the former owner, Tenet Healthcare.

Art law repealed

SD PIERRE — A 16-year-old law requiring state funding for works of art in new public buildings will be repealed under legislation signed by Gov. Mike Rounds. The 1989 law said the Legislature must set aside an art allowance equal to 1 percent of the cost of those projects. The stipulation was never followed.

End of streetcar line?

WA SEATTLE — The city may shut down its waterfront streetcar line so the Seattle Art Museum can build a sculpture park at the north end of the line where its maintenance barn is located. The streetcar is a popular tourist attraction that carries 400,000 people a year. It runs between Myrtle Edwards Park and Pioneer Square.

City Council recall

OK McALESTER — Petitions seeking the recall of City Council members Michael Dawkins and Louis Snitherman were turned in to the city clerk. They served on the council when contracts and budgets with leave buyback provisions for former City Manager Randy Green were approved. Green received \$579,500 for unused leave over a five-year period. The FBI is investigating the case.

Backup budget

TN NASHVILLE — A backup budget plan released by Gov. Phil Bredesen would either slash education spending by \$268 million or end pharmacy benefits for people in the state public health care program. The alternative budget is on the table in case Bredesen's primary plan, which presupposes savings through cuts in the TennCare program, is held up in court.

Wrong number

WI MADISON — When the state's Division of Motor Vehicles sent notices to 25,000 motorists to renew their registration, they made a tiny mistake.

The telephone number printed on the postcards was one digit off and instead connected callers to "the nation's most informative psychic connection service, helping you with love, money, health and romantic encounters."

The Division of Motor Vehicles spent \$1,500 sending letters to truckers after someone called about the typo, said Jane Zarada, director of the state Bureau of Vehicle Services.

Golden Gate suicides

CA SAN FRANCISCO — A proposal to study a suicide barrier on the Golden Gate Bridge is expected to get the go-ahead despite mixed reactions from the public and serious questions over finances.

The 19 bridge district directors will be asked to take the first step and commit \$2 million toward environmental studies and preliminary design work.

In addition to that \$2 million, \$15 million to \$25 million will be needed to build a barrier, so the money question will probably be a major part of the discussion.

An estimated 1,300 people have jumped from the bridge to their deaths since it was built in 1937, giving the West's signature span additional renown as the top suicide landmark in the world.

Fortunate to be alive

TN TOWNSEND — Four college freshmen got off on a spring-break excursion to the Great Smoky Mountains National Park said that they felt lucky to be alive after they were snowed in at a shelter on the Appalachian Trail.

Matthew Schultz, 19, Fran Saldarriaga, 19, Ryan McCall, 19, and Bryan Hendrick, 19, were rescued by park rangers and a National Guard helicopter after spending two wet, freezing nights huddled in a trail shelter.

Schultz was airlifted to the University of Tennessee Medical Center in Knoxville as a precautionary measure after falling victim to hypothermia. His three companions walked off the trail a few hours later with words of warning for anyone planning a trip into the mountains.

"We weren't prepared," Hendrick said. "We may have done a few things right, but we did a lot of things wrong. We were lucky."

Stories and photos from wire services

OPINION

In an era of lone superpower, we're all safer

BY ARTHUR HERMAN

Terrorists swarm into Iraq. North Korea plays nuclear blackmail; Syria and Iran hold hands in public; crowds fill Beirut's streets; the shooting of an Italian journalist provokes outrage across Europe. Is this a world being made safe for democracy or a world on the brink? Some, especially Europeans, say the latter, arguing that this is how happens when the planet is stuck with just one superpower. Echoing France's Jacques Chirac, they yearn for a more "multipolar world," where an all-powerful United States can't play the bully.

Nonsense. The fact is, a unipolar world is a safer world and has been historically. For more than 100 years, from the defeat of Napoleon to the start of World War I, Britain was the world's lone superpower. Its Royal Navy enabled it to do the heavy lifting across the globe that no one else could or would, just as the U.S. military does today. Despite an inevitable crisis or two, the world enjoyed unprecedented peace, prosperity and stability. Now, it's worth worrying about the United States dominating the world, with so many warning along the lessons Britain learned in its years as lone superpower.

"Be prepared to make enemies. How glorious is the title of

'Englishman,'" wrote a Victorian-era Royal Navy officer after the mere presence of his ship off the coast of Italy ended riots in Rome and other cities, "and yet we are not loved." Don't expect to be. The world's other powers will never be happy about the global order you impose. Very few will dare to challenge you overtly, but they will scheme behind your back.

For decades after Napoleon's defeat, Britain fought to tug the world in a new, progressive direction. Britain's support of national self-determination in South America and southern Europe often put it at odds with Spain and Russia. France, which Britain had saved from dismemberment at the Vienna peace congress in 1815, plotted to reverse Britain's naval supremacy. Yet that supremacy protected France's business interests around the world. It also preserved a balance of power in Europe, which allowed France to remain a great power until World War I. As Iraq shows, in power politics no good deed goes unpunished.

Be prepared for the long haul. Britain's first step in creating a new world order in 1815 was declaring war on the Atlantic slave trade — akin to today's war on terror. It put together a coalition of the bribed and coerced just to get a final treaty (Spain and Portugal re-

fused to sign unless they were paid off). Nations that still had slaves dragged their feet, especially the United States. For more than 40 years, the Royal Navy fought to plug the outflow of slaves from Africa amid daunting obstacles. Successive British governments persisted out of a sense of moral duty.

This arduous effort, which many dismissed as a failure for decades, finally paid off, and by 1870 one of the worst scourges of European domination of the planet had come to an end. In world leadership, persistence pays.

Your best ambassador is your military. For more than a century, the Royal Navy was not only the instrument of the Pax Britannica but its reassuring symbol. Wherever its ships anchored, travelers, merchants and journalists of every nation felt safe. Royal Navy captains became the modern equivalent of knights in shining armor.

Today, the men and women of the U.S. armed services fill the same role. Look at their essential role in providing relief to tsunami victims (just the kind of job the Royal Navy did for a century) in full view of the Muslim world. Isolated incidents such as Abu Ghraib do not change the fact that U.S. troops make up the best military force in history. Let them be the face of the Pax Americana, in



Supporters of Muttahida Majlis-e-Amal, Pakistan's six-party religious alliance, chant slogans against America at a rally last Wednesday in Islamabad. Thousands gathered to condemn President Gen. Pervez Musharraf's government and his association with the United States.

peace-time and in wartime.

Finally, watch your back. Expect challengers to arise, those who will envy your power and look for opportunities to overtake you.

After World War I, British politicians tried to save money by slashing the size of the fleet. It was the crucial mistake of the 20th century. In the power vacuum Britain left in the Pacific, in slipped imperial Japan; in the Mediterranean, in slipped Mussolini's Italy; in Western and Central Europe, Hitler's Third Reich. It would take Pearl

Harbor to awaken the giant that would eventually take Britain's place as the world's policeman, the United States.

The only thing worse than a world with a lone superpower is one without a lone superpower. Despite its protestations, the world knows that — and that is a pity, it's the Americans, and only the Americans, who will save the day.

Arthur Herman is the author, most recently, of "To Rule the Waves: How the British Navy Shaped the Modern World." This column first appeared in the Los Angeles Times.

Ice and cool to idea of diminished use of its language

BY WILLIAM ECENBARGER

I heard the agent my *broffars* Bjargl, step on board Icelandic Flight 642. Just before takeoff, the flight attendant stands before us clasping a seat-belt buckle and droning through the *oyggisbundur um bord*. Some five hours later, we begin our descent into Reykjavik. At the airport, I get my passport stamped at *vagabærfreitt*, make a quick refresher stop in the *syrtingur*, exchange dollars for krona, and pick up my *guldreyri* and *guldreyri* at the *upplýsingajónusta fyrir feriofok*.

I have come to this nation of 280,000 inhabitants, who speak to each other in a language that is incomprehensible to 19,999 of every 20,000 people on Earth, to see how they are holding up against the onslaught of English. Iceland's linguistic patriots go to incredible lengths to preserve their language. Foreign words are ruthlessly screened out by a special agency, which also invents words for new things and ideas.

Icelanders have a strong belief in their own national greatness, and that conviction is rooted unshakably in language and words. Literacy isn't a problem here; it's a given. Icelanders believe that men and women should turn a verse as easily as they turn a page, and both endeavors are considered important to one's well-being.

Iceland has more bookstores per capita than any other nation in the world ("better shoeless than bookless" is an unofficial national motto). The most important tones are the sagas. Written in the 12th and 13th centuries, these are the great prose narratives of medieval Iceland, bloodthirsty tales of Viking derring-do. Icelandic schoolchildren read their national literature exactly as it was written hundreds of years ago. Modern Icelanders speak virtually the same language as their forefathers of the 10th century. Tomorrow morning's Reykjavik newspa-

pers will be written in the same language as the ancient sagas — that would be like this newspaper using Chaucerian English.

Language preservation worked nicely for centuries because Icelanders lived in diphthongs apart from the rest of the world, but in recent decades the cultural floodgates have been opened. English is everywhere — on televisions, VCRs, the Internet and commercial products.

It's part of a global problem: About 400 million people speak English as their first language, an additional 700 million or so use it as a second language and a billion people more are struggling to learn how to speak it. Meanwhile, other languages are disappearing at the rate of two per month. There are about 6,800 languages in the world, but the expert consensus is that 400 of them will soon be extinct.

Why care? "When you lose a language," the late linguistics professor Kenneth Hale once said, "you lose a culture, intellectual

wealth, a work of art. It's like dropping a bomb on a museum."

The front line of Icelandic preservation battle is in Reykjavik, the home of the Icelandic Language Institute (Icelandic: *Málfræðingur*). This government agency was set up in 1964 to devise new words when existing language proves inadequate. When AIDS first came to national attention in Iceland, the main discussion was what to call it rather than how to prevent it. The institute does not believe that AIDS should be called AIDS, and thus the disease is officially known as *dínsmaki*, an ancient Icelandic word meaning "totally vulnerable," which the institute settled on after some three years of study.

The preservationists often resurrect words from the sagas. A computer is called *tolva*, a fusion of the old Icelandic words for number and prophetic, and a TV screen is a *skjár*, a sheep's placenta once used by farmers as window panes. My favorite is *fróþjófur*, the word for pager, which means "thief of peace."

I left Iceland pessimistic. Everywhere I went, I heard English spoken. Though a written language can be purged of foreign words and phrases, policing how people speak is another matter. Many young Icelanders cannot be bothered with a language that is a minefield of subjunctive, inflections and gender (the number 2 has three genders).

In one sense, the Icelanders have no one to blame but themselves. Just as they have earnestly defended their language, they have with equal enthusiasm made sure that every schoolchild has a computer and learns English. Thus Microsoft sees no need to translate Windows into Icelandic. The publishers of popular books are beginning to skip translation as well. It's what the Icelandic language purists call a *sjálfseld* — a Catch-22. I fear the handwriting is on the wall — and it is in English.

William Ecenbarger was a longtime reporter at The Los Angeles Times. This column first appeared in the Los Angeles Times.

Mallard Fillmore

BY BRUCE TINSLEY



Horoscope

A super-lucky aspect involving the moon, Jupiter and Neptune promises there is much to gain from talking about your wants, desires, dreams and goals. People need to help one another. Even if others haven't the physical or intellectual resources, the mere intention of helpfulness causes miraculous consequences to occur. So speak up.

TODAY'S BIRTHDAY

(March 16). Though careful planning brings certain goals to hand, leave room in your life for lucky things to just happen, too—you're a favorite of the universe, and if you trust, you will be granted special gifts. This month features a flirtation. May brings love worth changing your life for. Leo and Cancer are lucky romantic connections. Your career takes off in June.

ARIES (March 21-April 19)

Extra motivation is needed to get through this challenging day. Affirm to yourself over and over (100 times is barely enough) that you CAN do it. In fact, nobody does it better!

TAURUS (April 20-May 20)

Big profound questions inform a million small decisions you'll make today about how to be and interact in your world. How will the world be a better place because you were in it?

GEMINI (May 21-June 21)

Someone near you is handing out points for being smart. But remember that being good is more important. The great genius scientist Albert Einstein said, "The most important human endeavor is striving for morality in our actions."

CANCER (June 22-July 22)

The critics are at large. Try and see the strength in others even while their weaknesses are being pointed out. If you can find a reason and a way to be joyful, your joy is contagious.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22). You'll have the chance to be mature, though childish planets play in your psyche, making it easy for you not to be. Consider that love with strings

attached isn't love at all. It's business, really, and more about cause and effect.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)

Your emotions are not unlike the muscles in your body. They can be exercised to be more flexible, stronger and more toned. Dealing with children, or adults who act like children, gives you a real emotional workout today.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23)

When does obsession become unhealthy? Someone or something you care about could be draining vital energy from other areas of your life. If you give your power away, the only one who can get it back is you.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21)

Planets provide plenty of distractions and opportunities for you to scatter your energy. If you can stay focused now, when it's challenging, you really can't lose. So stay on purpose.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)

It's better to remain a mystery to certain people. Let them project themselves, making up their own story about who you are. You'll find humor in the scenarios they come up with.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)

Since you who love has such an enormous impact on the rest of your life, it makes sense to pour your time and energy into that area. Put all your emotions and your imagination toward creating a better relationship.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)

Address that unattained desire that's been on your list of New Year's resolutions for years now. Invest yourself in finally having this. The more defined your goal is, the more likely you are to obtain it.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20)

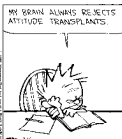
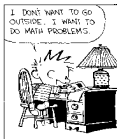
Avoidance might work in the short term, but sooner or later, you'll have to face your fear. The weak person prays to be sheltered from adversity, while the strong one prays for the courage to conquer it.

Creators Syndicate

Holiday Mathis



Calvin and Hobbes



Jump Start



Zits



Cathy



Hi and Lois



Beetle Bailey



Red and Rover



Better or Worse



Peanuts



Fox Trot



B.C.



Baby Bites



Spider Man



Blondie



Dilbert



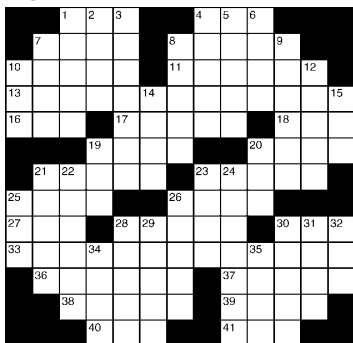
Hagar



Garfield



Eugene Sheffer Crossword



Across

- 1 Possesses
- 4 Orchestra's place
- 7 Fruit part
- 8 Tea variety
- 10 Cha-cha's cousin
- 11 Squirrel's stash
- 13 "Back at One" singer
- 16 Succor
- 17 Estimate
- 18 401(k) alternative
- 19 Panhandles
- 20 From square one
- 21 Terkel or Lonigan
- 23 All better
- 25 Stop up
- 26 "— and Circumstance"

Down

- 1 Like mid-August
- 2 Actress Jessica
- 3 Freeloaded
- 4 Bushel quarters
- 5 Religious images (var.)
- 6 Aaron's daughter
- 7 — mutual
- 8 Walks the floor
- 9 Motor
- 10 Biz deg.
- 12 Vestige
- 14 Oktoberfest crockery
- 15 Spotted, or Twenty
- 19 Imperfection
- 20 Dadaist pioneer
- 21 Casino temptation
- 22 Hotel guests' needs
- 23 Barbershop item
- 24 Diamond experts?
- 25 Eye network
- 26 "What's My Line?" group
- 28 Merriment
- 29 Crowbar
- 30 Jacob's ladder, e.g.
- 31 Featherly stoles
- 32 Mole, maybe
- 34 Rose
- 35 Antitoxins

Answer to Previous Puzzle



3-16

CRYPTOQUIP

EB XG W.X. CXRF CXWV
AZL NXR X TGXJT BLZ
RTFIJNEGD AEIQZFR. ER
NF XG XZIBQW OLODFZ?
Yesterday's Cryptoquip: I IMAGINE THAT A CROSS BETWEEN A CANNON AND A BELL WOULD BE DUBBED "THE BOOMERANG."
Today's Cryptoquip Clue: X equals A

Soon-to-be in-law has big mouth

Dear Abby: I am an operating room nurse. My soon-to-be mother-in-law recently had a procedure done that required anesthesia. When the anesthesiologist arrived to interview her before her procedure, she proceeded to ask him if he knew me. He replied that he did.

Her next question was whether he knew that I had recently had cosmetic surgery. Thankfully, he acted in a professional manner by simply saying, "Oh?" She continued the interrogation by asking him if he was aware that I had been previously engaged, and whether or not I was a runaway bride or not.

I was flabbergasted that she had the gall to bring up such personal things with someone with whom I have a professional relationship. This is a small community where things spread like wildfire. I want to have a relationship with her, but I feel as though she kicked me in the stomach and stabbed me in

the back. Is there anything I can say to make her aware of my feelings, or must I be respectful and keep my thoughts to myself? I am deeply hurt.

Dear Appalled: Your fiancée's mother may have been in love at the prospect of her surgery, started babbling and couldn't stop. However, unless you want a strained relationship with your in-laws, do not "confront" her. She can't untie the bell. Now that you know she lacks judgment and leaks like a rusty bucket, in the future confine nothing to her unless you want the whole town to know.

Dear Abby



Dear Abby: My son is 15. When we're home and watching TV in the evening, my son often enjoys cuddling up next to me. He'll put his head on my shoulder and wants my arm around his shoulders. I, too, enjoy this

very much, and when he says, "Oh, Mommy, I love you so much," as he often does, my heart melts. I should mention that he is still shorter than me, though barely. He is not the typical 15-year-old who towers over his mother.

Until recently, I thought our closeness would help him develop into a warm, loving man, but now, I'm wondering if this is healthy for him to be doing and for me to allow. I would hate to see him develop into a needy, clingy man or a man's man.

Just a Loving Mom in Australia
Dear Loving Mom: Every parent should be so blessed as to have a son like yours. You have raised a loving only child who is bonded to his parents. If he doesn't start dating by the time he's 18, TIEH there may be cause to worry. Otherwise, he sounds just fine to me.

Letters for this column — with your name and phone number — should be addressed to Dear Abby, P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles CA 90069. Readers can write to Abby on the Internet at: <http://www.uepress.com/dearabby>
Universal Press Syndicate

JUMBLE

Unscramble these four Jumbles, one letter to each square, to form four ordinary words.

EGGRO

CUFOS

TENCED

GARNAL

©2005 Tribune Media Services, Inc. All Rights Reserved.

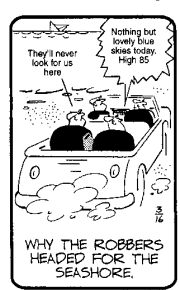
www.jumble.com

A: THE [] WAS []

Yesterday's Jumbles: GUILT ORBIT FUNGUS TANKER

Answer: When the king went out for the night, he wore his — REIGN' OUTFIT

THAT SCRAMBLED WORD GAME by Henri Arnold and Mike Argiron



Now arrange the circled letters to form the surprise answer, as suggested by the above cartoon.

(Answers tomorrow)

Affair leaves woman confused

Dear Annie: I am a married woman with one child. We don't lack for anything. My husband is an OK guy and a good father, but he's very self-centered.

Last May, one of my neighbors started to show an interest in me. "Jack" also is married (his wife is a bit of a hypochondriac), and he has a small child. A few months ago, at a party we both attended, Jack had a few drinks and gave me a passionate kiss. I have never been kissed like that in my life. It sent shock waves through my entire body. After that, we would slip away and kiss here and there. Then it started to be more. Now we have a secret affair going on. I don't want to get caught, but I also don't want to give him up. It is like I finally found my soul mate.

— Very Confused
Dear Confused: Don't confuse passionate kisses with Jack being your soul mate. This is lust, not love. Are you willing to wreck two

Annie's Mailbox



marriages and destroy your child's sense of security for shock waves? Illicit affairs can be temporarily exciting, but the consequences are often permanently painful. Tell your husband you want to see a counselor. If he won't go, go without him. Learn how to put some of that sexual energy into your marriage, or make a

clean break.

Dear Annie: I am responding to the letter from "Negative Dad." He said his son's blood type is O, while his is AB and his wife's is A. He assumed he was not his son's biological father.

Classification into the major blood groups is based on the presence or absence of two proteins, the A and B antigens, produced by the A and B alleles. The absence of either A or B antigens is called Type O.

The son gets one gene from each parent. If the parent has one

chromosome with an antigen and one without, he or she can pass either one on to the child. The writer told he is "type AB," assumes he must pass on either the A or the B allele, but cannot have a son with neither. But other factors may block the expression of these alleles, so the blood of the child with A or B or AB genotype may be reported as Type O. These other factors are not reported in ordinary ABO typing. There is also the possibility of laboratory error.

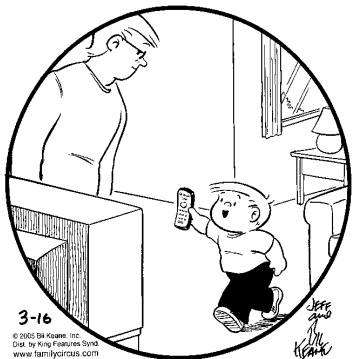
The reader should seek a consultation with a geneticist and not proceed with a potentially destructive confrontation on the basis of the major blood types.

— Gordon Harper, M.D., Harvard Medical School

Dear Dr. Harper: Thank you for providing a valid reason for Dad to believe his son belongs to him biologically as well as in every other way.

Annie's Mailbox is written by Kathy Mitchell and Marcy Sugar, longtime editors of the Ann Landers column. Please e-mail your questions to anniesmailbox@comcast.net, or write to: Annie's Mailbox, c/o Creators Syndicate, 5777 W. Century Blvd., Suite 700, Los Angeles, CA 90045. Creators Syndicate

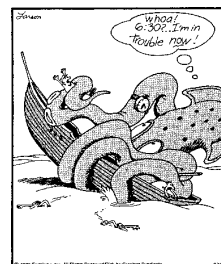
Family Circus



"You're right! I found the remote in the very last place I looked."



Dennis the Menace



STRIPE CLASSIFIED



Selling your couch, your car or your Stephen King collection?

See it FREE in Stripes Classified

Up to 32 words FREE for 21 days!

Free Ad Guidelines:

- Free ads are restricted to 320 characters or less.
- Ads must not be mailed or faxed, but may be mailed or faxed to make changes to an ad.
- Free ads are not available for private parties, but for information on advertising in Stripes Classified, call 435-2527.
- Stripes and Stripes reserves the right to modify or delete any ad.

Build Your Business For As Little As \$21 a week!

Stars and Stripes offers the most affordable and profitable way to reach the military community overseas. Ad rates vary depending on the size of your ad and the frequency of insertion. Please contact us for details!

Reach us!

Phone us at:
(33-3423-8257) (Commercial)
(33-3423-8257) (Residential)
229-3721-7141 (Korea DMZ)
645-7676 (Korea DMZ)
721-7146 (Korea DMZ)

Fax us at:
(33-3423-8257) (Tokyo DMZ)
(33-3423-8257) (Tokyo DMZ)
021-721-7141 (Korea DMZ)
021-721-7141 (Korea DMZ)
645-7676 (Korea DMZ)

Mail us at:
11100 Kippwood, APO 96337-6002
11100 Kippwood, APO 96337-6002
11100 Kippwood, APO 96337-6002
Email us at:
classifieds@stripes.com

Deadline to place, cancel, or make any change to an ad is 15 business days prior to publishing date. If the ad has a geographical error, Pacific Stars and Stripes liability is to run for one (1) additional day on the next available issue date. Any other problem with advertising must be filed in writing no later than (10) days after the first insertion of the ad. Ads cannot be run up down or sideways.

All Classified Advertisements Are Non-refundable

Classified advertising is accepted from DOD personnel (private party as Classified advertisements) and all organizations which provide a service of interest to the military community (business advertisements). All ads are accepted based on acceptance according to the moral and ethical judgment of Pacific Stars and Stripes. Classified advertisements must be acceptable for our general military readership. Pacific Stars and Stripes has the right to return any and all ads considered inappropriate for publication.

Name _____ Phone _____
Address _____ Installation _____
Your ad _____

Submit columns to Stars and Stripes, Classified Ad Dept., Unit 45002, APO AP 96337-5002 Fax DSN 229-3724, (33-3423-8257) Email classifieds@stripes.com

Announcements 040

Save Time

Meet New Friends

Discounts

Sales & Coupons

600+

Pre-screened

merchants

shipping to

AP/PO's

Local Rating (Free Classified)

Ad Ornaments (Information)

Photo Center (Member Photos)

www.consum.com

Autos for Sale

Japan 146

Atsugi, 1994 Nissan Laurel

Power Windows/Interior Stereo

AC/Hatch, Radio AMPM

Couverts with 5-CD changer

\$2000 OBD JC1 Jan 2007

Wagon Year 2007 Sales Call

Jan 2007, Call Atsugi

Mail 253-356, 085-5055-4775

Atsugi, 1999 Toyota Cavalier

Atsugi, 12-12-02 CD changer

with 5-CD changer, 5-CD

changer, 5-CD changer, 5-CD

changer, 5-CD changer, 5-CD

changer, 5-CD changer, 5-CD

changer, 5-CD changer, 5-CD

changer, 5-CD changer, 5-CD

changer, 5-CD changer, 5-CD

changer, 5-CD changer, 5-CD

changer, 5-CD changer, 5-CD

changer, 5-CD changer, 5-CD

changer, 5-CD changer, 5-CD

changer, 5-CD changer, 5-CD

changer, 5-CD changer, 5-CD

changer, 5-CD changer, 5-CD

changer, 5-CD changer, 5-CD

changer, 5-CD changer, 5-CD

changer, 5-CD changer, 5-CD

changer, 5-CD changer, 5-CD

changer, 5-CD changer, 5-CD

changer, 5-CD changer, 5-CD

changer, 5-CD changer, 5-CD

changer, 5-CD changer, 5-CD

changer, 5-CD changer, 5-CD

changer, 5-CD changer, 5-CD

changer, 5-CD changer, 5-CD

changer, 5-CD changer, 5-CD

changer, 5-CD changer, 5-CD

changer, 5-CD changer, 5-CD

changer, 5-CD changer, 5-CD

changer, 5-CD changer, 5-CD

changer, 5-CD changer, 5-CD

changer, 5-CD changer, 5-CD

changer, 5-CD changer, 5-CD

changer, 5-CD changer, 5-CD

Autos for Sale

Korea 148

4-wheel, 2000 Ford Explorer XLT

4-wheel, 2000 Ford Explorer XLT

4-wheel, 2000 Ford Explorer XLT

4-wheel, 2000 Ford Explorer XLT

4-wheel, 2000 Ford Explorer XLT

4-wheel, 2000 Ford Explorer XLT

4-wheel, 2000 Ford Explorer XLT

4-wheel, 2000 Ford Explorer XLT

4-wheel, 2000 Ford Explorer XLT

4-wheel, 2000 Ford Explorer XLT

4-wheel, 2000 Ford Explorer XLT

4-wheel, 2000 Ford Explorer XLT

4-wheel, 2000 Ford Explorer XLT

4-wheel, 2000 Ford Explorer XLT

4-wheel, 2000 Ford Explorer XLT

4-wheel, 2000 Ford Explorer XLT

4-wheel, 2000 Ford Explorer XLT

4-wheel, 2000 Ford Explorer XLT

4-wheel, 2000 Ford Explorer XLT

4-wheel, 2000 Ford Explorer XLT

4-wheel, 2000 Ford Explorer XLT

4-wheel, 2000 Ford Explorer XLT

4-wheel, 2000 Ford Explorer XLT

4-wheel, 2000 Ford Explorer XLT

4-wheel, 2000 Ford Explorer XLT

4-wheel, 2000 Ford Explorer XLT

4-wheel, 2000 Ford Explorer XLT

4-wheel, 2000 Ford Explorer XLT

4-wheel, 2000 Ford Explorer XLT

4-wheel, 2000 Ford Explorer XLT

4-wheel, 2000 Ford Explorer XLT

4-wheel, 2000 Ford Explorer XLT

4-wheel, 2000 Ford Explorer XLT

4-wheel, 2000 Ford Explorer XLT

4-wheel, 2000 Ford Explorer XLT

4-wheel, 2000 Ford Explorer XLT

4-wheel, 2000 Ford Explorer XLT

4-wheel, 2000 Ford Explorer XLT

4-wheel, 2000 Ford Explorer XLT

4-wheel, 2000 Ford Explorer XLT

4-wheel, 2000 Ford Explorer XLT

4-wheel, 2000 Ford Explorer XLT

4-wheel, 2000 Ford Explorer XLT

4-wheel, 2000 Ford Explorer XLT

4-wheel, 2000 Ford Explorer XLT

4-wheel, 2000 Ford Explorer XLT

4-wheel, 2000 Ford Explorer XLT

4-wheel, 2000 Ford Explorer XLT

4-wheel, 2000 Ford Explorer XLT

4-wheel, 2000 Ford Explorer XLT

4-wheel, 2000 Ford Explorer XLT

4-wheel, 2000 Ford Explorer XLT

4-wheel, 2000 Ford Explorer XLT

4-wheel, 2000 Ford Explorer XLT

4-wheel, 2000 Ford Explorer XLT

4-wheel, 2000 Ford Explorer XLT

4-wheel, 2000 Ford Explorer XLT

4-wheel, 2000 Ford Explorer XLT

4-wheel, 2000 Ford Explorer XLT

Autos for Sale

Korea 148

4-wheel, 2000 Ford Explorer XLT

4-wheel, 2000 Ford Explorer XLT

4-wheel, 2000 Ford Explorer XLT

4-wheel, 2000 Ford Explorer XLT

4-wheel, 2000 Ford Explorer XLT

4-wheel, 2000 Ford Explorer XLT

4-wheel, 2000 Ford Explorer XLT

4-wheel, 2000 Ford Explorer XLT

4-wheel, 2000 Ford Explorer XLT

4-wheel, 2000 Ford Explorer XLT

4-wheel, 2000 Ford Explorer XLT

4-wheel, 2000 Ford Explorer XLT

4-wheel, 2000 Ford Explorer XLT

4-wheel, 2000 Ford Explorer XLT

4-wheel, 2000 Ford Explorer XLT

4-wheel, 2000 Ford Explorer XLT

4-wheel, 2000 Ford Explorer XLT

4-wheel, 2000 Ford Explorer XLT

4-wheel, 2000 Ford Explorer XLT

4-wheel, 2000 Ford Explorer XLT

4-wheel, 2000 Ford Explorer XLT

4-wheel, 2000 Ford Explorer XLT

4-wheel, 2000 Ford Explorer XLT

4-wheel, 2000 Ford Explorer XLT

4-wheel, 2000 Ford Explorer XLT

4-wheel, 2000 Ford Explorer XLT

4-wheel, 2000 Ford Explorer XLT

4-wheel, 2000 Ford Explorer XLT

4-wheel, 2000 Ford Explorer XLT

4-wheel, 2000 Ford Explorer XLT

4-wheel, 2000 Ford Explorer XLT

4-wheel, 2000 Ford Explorer XLT

4-wheel, 2000 Ford Explorer XLT

4-wheel, 2000 Ford Explorer XLT

4-wheel, 2000 Ford Explorer XLT

4-wheel, 2000 Ford Explorer XLT

4-wheel, 2000 Ford Explorer XLT

4-wheel, 2000 Ford Explorer XLT

4-wheel, 2000 Ford Explorer XLT

4-wheel, 2000 Ford Explorer XLT

4-wheel, 2000 Ford Explorer XLT

4-wheel, 2000 Ford Explorer XLT

4-wheel, 2000 Ford Explorer XLT

4-wheel, 2000 Ford Explorer XLT

4-wheel, 2000 Ford Explorer XLT

4-wheel, 2000 Ford Explorer XLT

4-wheel, 2000 Ford Explorer XLT

4-wheel, 2000 Ford Explorer XLT

4-wheel, 2000 Ford Explorer XLT

4-wheel, 2000 Ford Explorer XLT

4-wheel, 2000 Ford Explorer XLT

4-wheel, 2000 Ford Explorer XLT

4-wheel, 2000 Ford Explorer XLT

4-wheel, 2000 Ford Explorer XLT

4-wheel, 2000 Ford Explorer XLT

4-wheel, 2000 Ford Explorer XLT

4-wheel, 2000 Ford Explorer XLT

4-wheel, 2000 Ford Explorer XLT

4-wheel, 2000 Ford Explorer XLT

Autos for Sale

Korea 152

4-wheel, 2000 Ford Explorer XLT

4-wheel, 2000 Ford Explorer XLT

4-wheel, 2000 Ford Explorer XLT

4-wheel, 2000 Ford Explorer XLT

4-wheel, 2000 Ford Explorer XLT

4-wheel, 2000 Ford Explorer XLT

4-wheel, 2000 Ford Explorer XLT

4-wheel, 2000 Ford Explorer XLT

4-wheel, 2000 Ford Explorer XLT

4-wheel, 2000 Ford Explorer XLT

4-wheel, 2000 Ford Explorer XLT

4-wheel, 2000 Ford Explorer XLT

4-wheel, 2000 Ford Explorer XLT

4-wheel, 2000 Ford Explorer XLT

4-wheel, 2000 Ford Explorer XLT

4-wheel, 2000 Ford Explorer XLT

4-wheel, 2000 Ford Explorer XLT

4-wheel, 2000 Ford Explorer XLT

4-wheel, 2000 Ford Explorer XLT

4-wheel, 2000 Ford Explorer XLT

4-wheel, 2000 Ford Explorer XLT

4-wheel, 2000 Ford Explorer XLT

4-wheel, 2000 Ford Explorer XLT

4-wheel, 2000 Ford Explorer XLT

4-wheel, 2000 Ford Explorer XLT

ED

Furniture	510
-----------	-----

Foster, Okinawa - Wooden Toddler Bed in Like New condition. Comes with mattress and 4 pieces Elmo sports theme bedding set. The entire set is

Kadena - Desk, Sauder Computer Work center - Great Condition! Furniture store sale for \$299.00 + \$44.85 assembly fee. Already assembled \$200.00 OBO. Call 633-1519 or Kadena_geko@yahoo.com

table set. Includes coffee table, 2 end tables and a sofa table. We just want something different. We paid over \$500 for all. We will sell them for \$300. Please call Desiree or James at 633-4269 or email granfam@oasis.mediatti.net

Kadena, Okinawa - Attention
\$700 Dark wood Bedroom Set
For Sale - A queen size bed
including bed mattress, a triple
chest dresser, a single on
dresser & 2 night stands. 3
years old. In very good condi-
tion. If interested please contact
All Whitehouse a

Kadena, Okinawa - Childs lot
bed with small dresser Very
good condition \$150.00 obo
Black metal bunk bed set
\$100.00 obo. Solid wood twin
captains bed with desk. We
used but very solid \$75.00 obo

Kadena, Okinawa - CONVERT-
ABLE CRIB TO TODDLER BED
TO CHILD/TEEN BEDROOM
SET! Light whitewashed wood
with dark wood trim - like new
bookshelf/dresser with changing
table, and full size bed/crib. Paid

Kadena, Okinawa - Curio cabinet
net with glass mirror long life
design, dark color wood, great
condition, bought at furniture
store, selling for \$450 call Elias
at 633-0018

Kadena, Okinawa - Entertainment Center for Big Screen TV in great shape. Asking \$825. Please call 632-3438. Courtney Okinawa - Children's Loft bed for sale Silver metal frame with a bed on top and desk area with lot of storage underneath. Call 633-3736.

Kadena, Okinawa - Esplanade
bedroom set includes Sleigh
bed Chest of Drawers, Night
stand, and Dressing table, only

Set sold in waterbed store for \$6500 selling for \$4000 obo also includes queen pillow top mattress. Call 633-2166 or e-mail snider@oasismediatti.net

Kadena, Okinawa - For Sale
Sofa and Loveseat - great condition

Kadena, Okinawa - FURNITURE STYLE LOCKING FILE CABINET - Dark wood tones with marbled grey top. Dimensions:

Dimensions: 29" wide x 28" high x 20" deep has two lg. drawers. Looks wonderful w. any decor in room. Not you're usual filing cabinet! \$45. Call 633-0018 or email mmsmem3@oasis.mednet.afl.net

corner dinette set for sale. The set includes a table with pull out leaves, 3 chairs and a corner bench that will sit 3. It also comes with a large china cabinet. We paid over \$1,000 but must let it go for \$600. Call 633-1513 if interested.

Kadena, Okinawa - Hand carved Teak Winnie the Pooh small chair and table set, \$50. Call 633-1513 if interested.

Kadena, Okinawa - Keller sofa table lighted display area with antique glass doors. Like new. sells in furniture store for \$550.

Kadena, Okinawa - King size
waterbed nine tubes big head
footboard about a year old
perfect condition \$1,500 call
633-0865.

Johnson outruns Busch brothers in Vegas

Hendrick driver stops Roush run with victory in UAW-DaimlerChrysler 400

BY JENNA FRYER
The Associated Press

LAS VEGAS — Three races this season, three battles between Hendrick Motorsports and Roush Racing.

Give Hendrick the edge, two victories to one, after Jimmie Johnson stopped the Roush stranglehold at Las Vegas Motor Speedway by winning the UAW-Daimler-Chrysler 400 on Sunday.

But Roush came out a little cleaner after Johnson and runner-up Kyle Busch, another Hendrick driver, both failed post-race inspection. The roof on Johnson's Chevrolet was too low, and the rear quarter panel on Busch's car was too high.

There were no immediate penalties announced, but NASCAR could elect to dock points from both drivers. Doing so would cost Johnson the 15-point lead he has over reigning Nextel Cup champion Kurt Busch.

But Johnson isn't points racing, yet, focusing instead on spending the \$30,000 bonus he earned for taking over the points lead.

"I can have a little fun at the blackjack table," Johnson said. "But I'm not concerned about the points lead yet."

Johnson, who won for the 15th time in his career, has victories in five of the last nine races, dating to last season. He hasn't finished worse than sixth since October, and this victory put him right back where he spent most of last season — on top of the points.

This latest victory helped Hendrick Motors claim a piece of the track in the desert that Roush Racing has dominated with five victories in the first seven races.

But with Johnson and Hendrick team-

mates Kyle Busch finishing second and Jeff Gordon fourth, the Roush dominance is over. Kurt Busch carried the Roush flag with a third-place finish.

Hendrick now has two wins this season — Gordon won the season-opener at Daytona — and Roush has one with Greg Biffle winning at

"It's going to be a fun battle all the way to the end."

“...the all the way to the end,” Kurt Busch said. “You could say that Hendrick and Roush definitely have a distinct advantage over the other groups.”

Johnson's win also ruined what could have been a banner day for the Busch brothers. Las Vegas natives.

As Johnson was driving his Chevrolet to Victory Lane, Kyle was treasuring his second-place finish.

"This is as good as a win as far as I'm concerned," he yelled to his crew.

"I had a bunch of guys put money on me, so it would have been cool to have Jimmie pull over and let us win," said Kyle, who went off at 60-1 before the race. "But, hey, next year I'll probably have a lot lower odds."

The Busch brothers have had a whirlwind week in Vegas. It's always a party when the boys are home, as they cram in

But all the glitz and glamour isn't always what it's cracked up to be, at least for Kurt, who seemed to struggle at his home track.

So with the race coming to an end, and his shot at a victory gone, he had an even harder time accepting the kid he calls

"To see [Kyle] in front of me, oooh, that was tough to swallow," Kurt said. "But I am so very proud of him. But I officially have to cut it out from here: No more advice for Kyle."



STRIPES CLASSIFIED

CAREER CENTER



TITAN

National Security Solutions

The Titan Corporation and its partners Northrop Grumman, Wave Technologies and Hana Engineering, collectively known as Team Titan, are competing for the Engineering and Technical Services (ETS) for PACAF Command, Control, Communications, Computers, Intelligence, Wargaming, and Force Protection (C4IW and FP) Systems Program. Titan (a Fortune 500 company with 2004 revenues exceeding \$2B) is an industry leader in C4ISR and related mission essential systems and services.

We have a long history of partnering with our clients and delivering innovative and responsive support for national security. We are looking for highly capable individuals to continue this trend. PACAF ETS work includes:

- Program Management
- Systems Engineering
- Software Engineering
- Technical Assistance
- Configuration Management
- System and Database Administration
- System/Network Management
- Technical Training
- Exercise Support
- Hardware Maintenance
- Wargaming Support

This effort supports PACAF activities on the Pacific Rim in particular:

Alaska - Elmendorf AFB, Eielson AFB; Guam - Andersen AFB; Hawaii - Hickam AFB; Japan - Kadena AB, Misawa AB, Yokota AB and South Korea - Osan AB, Kunsan AB, Taegu AB, Kwang-Ju AB.

It is estimated that this contract will be awarded this summer with work beginning October 1, 2005. For information on these positions and to submit your resume online, visit us at <http://www.titan.com/careers/>. If you have questions, please contact us at pacafets@titan.com.

www.titan.com

EQE, ME/DN



Pentagon
CHANNEL

Serving Those Who Serve

**Watch the new
Pentagon Channel ...**

... for military news and
information, 24/7, worldwide.

Visit pentagonchannel.mil and find out how!

pentagonchannel.mil

LB gives records to Congress

BY HOWARD FENDRICH

The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Major League Baseball handed over a box of subpoenaed documents on Monday to the House panel investigating steroids in the sport.

The Government Reform Committee had given baseball a Monday deadline for producing information about its drug-testing program, including test results with the names of players removed.

It wasn't immediately clear what papers the commissioner's office submitted. The committee had issued a subpoena covering 11 areas.

"We are reviewing the documents now," David Marin, a spokesman for committee chairman Tom Davis, wrote in an e-mail to The Associated Press.

Rob Manfred, baseball's execu-

tive press officer for labor relations, said Sunday that the commissioner's office was working on producing the documents. Asked whether baseball would give everything the panel wanted, Manfred said: "Thirty-five years of documents in three days? Everything that was humanly possible."

The documents could give Congress a better sense of how corporate baseball will be. It is still unclear what they will show up to testify before the committee on Thursday.

Davis predicted Sunday on NBC's "Meet the Press" that the full House easily would pass a contempt of Congress resolution if subpoenaed players don't appear. He said one or more of the seven active or former players called to testify could be excused their testimony, though he did not specify who.

The last contempt of Congress prosecution was in 1983.

"These people are not above the law," Davis told NBC.

He was asked why San Francisco Giants slugger Barry Bonds wasn't invited to the hearing.

"There are a lot of reasons why people are on or off the list, including the BALCO investigation in San Francisco, but including the fact that we didn't want to make this about one player," Davis said.

Bonds reportedly testified to a grand jury in 2003 that he used a clear substance and a cream given to him by a trainer charged in the BALCO steroid-distribution case, but he also reportedly said he didn't know they were steroids.

The ranking member on the House panel, Henry Waxman of

California, said on "Meet the Press" that Bonds could be summoned for a future hearing.

Mark McGwire, Sammy Sosa, Jose Canseco, Jason Giambi, Rafael Palmeiro, Curt Schilling and Frank Thomas are the players subpoenaed. Manfred, two other baseball executives and players' association head Donald Fehr also were subpoenaed.

Canseco asked for immunity so he can testify fully, Schilling said he's willing to testify, and Thomas might testify by telephone because of an injury. McGwire, Sosa, Giambi and Palmeiro haven't said whether they'll go.

Asked why Sosa and McGwire were called, Davis said: "They've been accused by former colleagues of having used drugs. ... There is, I think, a widespread feeling that maybe they cheated their way to achieving these records by using illegal drugs."

Harrington earns first victory on PGA Tour

The Associated Press

PALM BEACH GARDENS, Fla. — As Padraig Harrington mounted a charge in the Honda Classic, birdies came so easily he began thinking about shooting 59.

He settled for his first PGA Tour title instead.

Harrington won when Vijay Singh missed a 2½-foot putt to bogey the second playoff hole Sunday.

Ranked eighth in the world, the Dublin native is believed to be the first player from the Republic of Ireland to win a tour event.

He figured his countrymen watched on TV.

"I'm sure I kept a few pubs open tonight," Harrington said. "It's very good to be the first Irishman. We have produced a lot of competitive players."

An assistant to Irish President Mary McAleese phoned with congratulations. Harrington caught a break with Singh's miss, but he earned the title by shooting a 9-under-par 63 in the final round.

Down seven shots when the day began, Harrington birdied 10 of the first 13 holes and briefly took sole possession of the lead.

"I had not looked at a leader board," he said. "I was just thinking about shooting 59. ... I'm thinking, 'I'm 10 under. It's there. How much more work do you have to do?'"

When consecutive bogeys ended his bid to tie the PGA Tour record, Harrington began to focus on winning the tournament. He was in a four-way tie for the lead when he finished nearly 90 minutes ahead of the last group, and earned a playoff with Singh and Joe Ogilvie when all three finished at 14-under 274.

The par-4 No. 18 was used for both playoff holes, and Harrington scrambled to get up-and-down for par each time. Ogilvie was eliminated when he bogeyed the first extra hole, and Singh undercharacteristically failed on the verge of victory.

He missed a 15-foot birdie try on the first playoff hole that would have given him the win. After Harrington made a 4-foot putt to par the second extra hole, Singh pushed his par try and the ball rimmed out.

"I thought it was a gimme," Harrington said. "If I had done it, I would be distraught, but thankfully Vijay has won enough that he shouldn't let it get to him."

Smith wins SBC Classic

SANTA CLARITA, Calif. — Ireland's Des Smyth won his first Champions' Tour title, closing with a 4-under-par 68 for a one-stroke victory over D.A. Weir and Mark McNulty in the SBC Classic.

Smyth finished with a 5-under 211 total on the Valencia Country Club course. McNulty shot a 74, and Weirung had a 72.

Saunders returns to major-league mound

The Associated Press

Tony Saunders wasn't worried about the results. After all he's been through, just throwing a few pitches off a major league mound was quite an accomplishment.

Trying an improbable comeback after twice breaking his left forearm while pitching, Saunders worked one inning for the Baltimore Orioles during their 5-3 victory over the St. Louis Cardinals in a split-squad game Sunday.

"I know it's one little insignificant inning in a game, but it felt good," said Saunders, who pitched in a game for the first time since breaking his arm with Class-A St. Petersburg on Aug. 24, 2000. "I know I can do that now," he added.

Saunders allowed two runs, three hits and one walk in Fort Lauderdale, Fla. After the game, he was reassigned to Baltimore's minor league camp. Saunders, who first broke his arm on May 26, 1999, while pitching for Tampa Bay, was in camp on a minor league contract with an invitation to spring training.

St. Louis' Scott Rolen broke out of a 0-for-11 slump with his first home run. Sammy Sosa hit his second homer for Baltimore, a towering shot to right.

Elsewhere, Randy Johnson, Derek Lowe and Mike Hampton all had outstanding outings.

At Kissimmee, Fla., Johnson made his second start with the New York Yankees, throwing four scoreless innings in an 8-2 victory over the Houston Astros, his former team.

"I think this was a good barometer for me because the biggest thing was that I was able to go from two innings to four innings without any problems," Johnson said. "By the time I felt like I was just getting my work in during my last start, I was done. I wasn't happy with everything I threw, but I felt like I was starting to settle in a little bit more."

At Vero Beach, Fla., Lowe allowed one run and three hits in five innings, and the Los Angeles

Spring training

Dodgers got home runs from Jeff Kent and Norihiro Nakamura in a 7-2 victory over the Florida Marlins.

Lowe has started three games this spring, giving up only one run and seven hits in 12 innings. "I'm probably like everyone else, two or three weeks away," he said. "I probably couldn't throw 100 or 110 pitches right now. But with three more starts, I think I'll be ready."

At Jupiter, Fla., Hampton had his third straight strong start, allowing one hit in four innings for the Atlanta Braves, who lost 7-3 to a St. Louis Cardinals split squad. Always a good hitter, he even connected for a two-run homer off Mark Mulder.

Hampton allowed his first two runs in nine innings this spring, but only a fourth-inning homer by John Mabry was earned. Opposing hitters were a combined 1-for-16 against the left-hander in his first two spring outings.

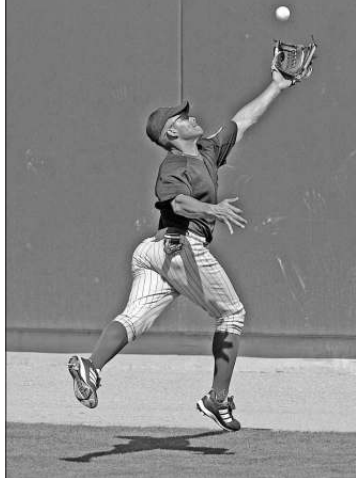
"I felt pretty good, not as sharp as the previous two outings," Hampton said. "On the whole it was a pretty good effort, not great. We're rebounding pretty good."

In other games:

Mets 7, Tigers 6: At Lakeland, Fla., Kris Benson had his second solid outing and Chris Woodward tripled twice, moving closer to earning a utility spot with New York. Luis Garcia homered off Detroit closer Tony Perovich in the ninth to break a 6-6 tie.

Twins 4, Red Sox 2: At Fort Myers, Fla., Kyle Lohse threw three solid innings and Joe Mauer had two hits for Minnesota. Boston starter Matt Clement gave up three runs and seven hits in four innings.

Blue Jays 5, Devil Rays 0: At St. Petersburg, Fla., Dave Bush pitched two-hit ball for four innings, and Alex Rios had four hits and scored three times. Tampa



Arizona Diamondbacks center fielder Jose Cruz Jr. robs Milwaukee Brewers' Lyle Overbay of a hit during the third inning of an exhibition game Sunday at the Brewers' spring training facility in Phoenix.

Bay starter Rob Bell threw three hitless innings.

Indians 10, Reds 1: At Sarasota, Fla., Scott Elarton allowed only two singles in four scoreless innings. Elarton, the Indians' No. 5 starter, has allowed just one run in three starts spanning nine innings this spring. Ken Griffey Jr. made his third appearance as a designated hitter for Cincinnati and singled in four plate appearances.

Mariners 7, Rangers 6: At Surprise, Ariz., Alfonso Soriano homered to snip an 0-for-17 start this spring and Richard Hidalgo hit a pair of two-run shots for Texas.

Seattle's Ruben Ibanez finished 2-for-3 to raise his spring training average to .519 (14-for-27).

Royals 3, Giants 3 (10): At Scottsdale, Ariz., Aaron Guel, Emil Brown and Ruben Gotay hit consecutive home runs in the fourth inning for Kansas City.

No longer the 'other' Washington school

Huskies not only region's top seed but also its best 'feel-good' story

By EDDIE PELLIS

The Associated Press

Bo knight and Rick Pitino. No Gonzaga and UCLA. All household names that are part of the Albuquerque regional this year. Only the hard core, though, might be familiar with the top seed — pint-sized guard Nate Robinson, three-year coach Lorenzo Romar and the Washington Huskies.

The Huskies (27-5), who play the majority of their games after most of America has gone to bed, definitely got the attention of the NCAA selection committee.

They won the Pac-10 tournament Saturday and, when Kentucky lost in the Southeastern Conference final Sunday, the door was opened for Romar's team to be seeded first — not bad for a team ranked just 14th in the latest Associated Press poll.

"If you ask me, 'Do we deserve it?' My answer is yes," Romar said. "Are we surprised? I guess the surprising part is that we weren't sure whether someone else, other than us, would think we were 'deserved it'."

With Washington as the No. 1, Wake Forest as the No. 2 and last year's national runner-up, Georgia Tech, as a No. 5, this is widely regarded as the most wide-open of the four regions.

Gonzaga, arguably the most recognizable team from Washington, earned a third seed and, given the bracket, there's a good argument for this being the year the tiny



Washington coach Lorenzo Romar hugs Jamaal Williams after the Huskies' 81-72 victory over Arizona on Saturday. Washington earned not only the Pac-10 tournament title but also a No. 1 seeding in the NCAA tournament.

school from Spokane finally gets to the Final Four.

"I don't really sit there and analyze," Bulldogs coach Mark Favey said. "I leave that up to the bracketologists."

All around the bracket are interesting stories featuring familiar names and high-profile programs.

Knight leads sixth-seeded Texas Tech in a first-round game against 11th-seeded UCLA.

Chris Paul of Wake Forest tries to set aside his suspension from the Atlantic Coast Conference tournament — one that contribut-

ed to his team's first-round loss — and lead the Demon Deacons to the regional semis for the second straight year.

Georgia Tech, a bubble team just two weeks ago, got in easily thanks to its appearance in the ACC tournament final. The Yellow Jackets open against George Washington.

Pitino leads the fourth-seeded Cardinals against Sun Belt champion Louisiana-Lafayette. The Cardinals, ranked sixth in the AP and winners of the regular-season and tournament championships in Conference USA, were

expecting a better seed, and now have reason to play with a chip on their shoulders.

"I've got to lift them up a little bit," Pitino said. "But we're in the tournament, we've met the criteria, we've met all the challenges and we've just got to keep on going."

Pacific looked like it could be the next Gonzaga, a powerful small school that had won straight going into the Big West Conference tournament final. A loss in that game dampened the optimism, but when the bracket came out, the Tigers found them-

selves a No. 8 seed — one win away against Utah from playing the Huskies.

"It looks like a good bracket for us," forward Christian Maraker said.

Indeed, it is wide open, and there is no need to look too far down the bracket to find the kind of intriguing, unknown team that often captures imaginations during the tournament.

That candidate is the Huskies, who get 16.7 points a game from the 5-foot-09 Robinson and who defeated Arizona twice over the last three weeks to greatly improve their standing in the bracket.

They beat out Kentucky, Oklahoma State, Wake Forest and a few other good candidates for a top seed, and even some of the oft-overlooked Pac-10 were surprised.

"It speaks volumes to the selection committee they were able to give a No. 1 seed to the Pac-10 in the West," Stanford coach Trent Johnson said. "Me personally, I didn't think they were going to get it."

They did, though, and Romar gets much of the credit.

A former Huskie himself, Romar was an assistant under Jim Harrick when UCLA won the national championship in 1995. Romar took over before the 2002-03 season and quickly transformed the Huskies from a regional also-ran into a national power.

Washington has been the latest RPI ratings. The Pac-10 tournament title was the first league championship of any kind for the Huskies since 1957.

"We've definitely got a banner to put in the gym next year," Washington forward Bobby Jones said. "We'd love to have another title that says, 'National Champions,' too."

AP Sports Writers Tim Korte in Seattle and Janie McCauley in San Francisco contributed to this report.

Albuquerque Regional

1. WASHINGTON

Record: 27-5, Last 10: 8-2.

Best win: 95-85 vs. Arizona on Jan. 15.
Key players: G Nate Robinson (16.3 pts., 4.9 reb.), C Simon Toppin (14.3 pts., 4.3 reb.), G Brandon Roy (13.2 pts., 5.6 reb.), F Bobby Jones (11.1 pts., 2.1 ast.).

Did you know?: A guard at Washington from the University of Washington, Robinson was named the NBA's Most Outstanding Player in 1999. The team's record in the Final Four is 2-1.

Outlook: Talented squad has Final Four experience.

2. WAKE FOREST

Record: 26-5, Last 10: 8-2.

Best win: 95-82 vs. North Carolina on Jan. 15.
Key players: G Chris Paul (14.8 pts., 6.6 reb.), C Eric Williams (16.0 pts., 7.7 reb.), G Justin Gray (16.3 pts., 2.1 ast.).

Did you know?: CBS announcer Bill Packer was an All-ACC guard for Wake in 1962, when the Deacons made their first Final Four trip.

Outlook: With Paul running the point, Demon Deacons have a strong run for the Final Four.

3. GONZAGA

Record: 25-4, Last 10: 10-0.

Best win: 77-70 vs. Louisiana State on Dec. 28.
Key players: F Adam Morrison (18.1 pts., 2.8 reb.), F Danny Harris (14.2 pts., 9.1 reb.), G Derek Rajivo (13.4 pts., 5.0 ast.).

Did you know?: Eight of 'Zags' nine NCAA tournament appearances have come in 1999.

Outlook: No longer giant killers, 'Zags could become a basketball powerhouse.

4. LOUISIANA

Record: 29-10, Last 10: 7-3.

Best win: 77-70 vs. Cincinnati on Feb. 2.
Key players: F Frank Adams (15.3 pts., 2.1 reb.), G Kenny O'Quinn (15.3 pts., 8.6 reb.), G Kenny O'Quinn (15.3 pts., 8.6 reb.).

Did you know?: Assistant coach Reggie Miller portrayed a basketball coach for three years on the reality movie "The Bill Engvall Show."

Outlook: Coming on strong, Cardinals could make a long tournament run.

5. GEORGIA TECH

Record: 19-11, Last 10: 6-4.

Best win: 102-101 at Wake Forest on Jan. 27.
Key players: G Jarrett Jack (15.9 pts., 4.6 ast.), G F. J. Simmer (14.4 pts., 3.8 reb.), C Luke Schenscher (10.4 pts., 5.6 reb.).

Did you know?: Yellow Jackets look to connect in last year's title game ended the best NCAA run in school history.

Outlook: The Yellow Jackets are peaking at the right time, but the selection committee did them no favors. One victory could be it.

6. TEXAS TECH

Record: 20-10, Last 10: 8-2.

Best win: 80-79 vs. Kansas on Feb. 14.
Key players: G Ronald Ross (16.6 pts., 5.1 reb.), G Jarrett Jack (15.9 pts., 3.3 reb.), F Devonne Miller (11.6 pts., 4.0 reb.).

Did you know?: Ross, the Red Raiders' leading scorer, was a walk-on without a scholarship as a freshman.

Outlook: Never count out a Bob Knight-coached team, but the Red Raiders will be lucky to win two games.

7. WEST VIRGINIA

Record: 20-10, Last 10: 7-3.

Best win: 70-66 at Pittsburgh on Feb. 23.
Key players: G Mike Garsney (10.8 pts., 5.3 reb.), F Tyrone Sully (12.1 pts.).

Did you know?: The Mountaineers have produced 13 All-Americans over the years including such standouts as Jerry West and "Hot Rod" Hundley.

Outlook: Any team from the Big East is tough, but Mountaineers lack the big-time player to take them deep into the tournament.

8. PITTSBURGH

Record: 20-10, Last 10: 7-3.

Best win: 72-70 vs. Boston College on Feb. 28.
Key players: G Carl Karchner (15.5 pts., 6.0 reb.), F Chevon Troutman (15.3 pts., 4.0 reb.), F Chris Taft (13.4 pts.).

Did you know?: The Panthers completed a third consecutive season ranked in the Top 10 in 2004. One of only three schools to achieve the honor (Duke and Kansas were the others).

Outlook: Could surprise, but an on-and-off season makes a long run in the tournament unlikely for the Panthers.

9. MISSOURI

Record: 20-10, Last 10: 7-3.

Best win: 78-51 at Missouri on Nov. 23.
Key players: G Nate Funk (17.0 pts., 5.0 reb.), G Johnny King (11.6 pts., 4.0 reb.).

Did you know?: Blue Jay record of record of five consecutive NCAA bids under Altman ended last year when Crighton (28-6) went to MIT.

Outlook: Up-tempo, smallish Jays could have players win bigger roles.

10. CREIGHTON

Record: 20-10, Last 10: 7-3.

Best win: 78-51 at Missouri on Nov. 23.
Key players: G Nate Funk (17.0 pts., 5.0 reb.), G Johnny King (11.6 pts., 4.0 reb.).

Did you know?: Blue Jay record of record of five consecutive NCAA bids under Altman ended last year when Crighton (28-6) went to MIT.

Outlook: Up-tempo, smallish Jays could have players win bigger roles.

11. UCLA

Record: 18-10, Last 10: 7-3.

Best win: 95-86 vs. Washington on Jan. 8.
Key players: G Dion Thompson (18.3 pts., 8.0 reb.), G Jordan Farmer (12.6 pts., 3.1 reb.), G Arroyo (11.0 pts., 2.2 ast.).

Did you know?: Bruins went to 14 Final Fours, winning 10 championships. Since then, UCLA has made the Final Four only once, winning its 11th title in 1995.

Outlook: The Bruins rely heavily on three freshmen, and their first-round exit from the Pac-10 tournament may hurt them.

12. GEORGIA WASHINGTON

Record: 22-10, Last 10: 7-3.

Best win: 96-83 vs. Michigan State on Dec. 4.
Key players: G Nate Funk (17.0 pts., 5.0 reb.), G Johnny King (11.6 pts., 4.0 reb.).

Did you know?: A native of London, England, Mensah-Bonsu goes by "Pops" since his full name is Nana Papa Yaw Mensah-Bonsu.

Outlook: The Colonials overachieved to reach the tournament. Winning more than one game would be a huge reach.

13. LOUISIANA-LAFAYETTE

Record: 20-10, Last 10: 7-3.

Best win: 83-81 vs. Southern Illinois on Jan. 5.
Key players: G Tiras Wade (20.4 pts., 6.0 reb.), F Brian Hamilton (13.5 pts., 7.5 reb.), G Oren Greene (11.7 pts., 4.7 reb.).

Did you know?: Louisiana-Lafayette was known as Southern Louisiana until 1999.

Outlook: It will be a stretch for the Sun Belt and the Ragin' Cajuns to make a small run.

14. WINSTON-SALEM

Record: 27-5, Last 10: 8-2.

Best win: 69-61 at Liberty on Feb. 10.
Key players: G Tommie Smith (12.8 pts., 4.5 reb.), G James Shuler (12.1 pts., 4.3 reb.), F Otis Daniels (11.6 pts., 3.0 reb.).

Did you know?: The Eagles are making their first NCAA tournament appearance in coach Greg Marshall's seventh-year tenure.

Outlook: Only one other Big South team finished above .500, so the Eagles don't have much of a base upon which to stage an upset.

15. MONTANA

Record: 20-10, Last 10: 7-3.

Best win: 82-59 vs. New Mexico on Feb. 14.
Key players: F Mindaugas Katelnyas (12.2 pts., 9.2 reb.), G Chris Brown (12.8 pts., 4.5 reb.), F Alphonso Pump (10.4 pts., 3.6 reb.).

Did you know?: The Bear's appearance in the tournament comes in John Shulman's first year as coach.

Outlook: The Southern Conference champ has lost first-round games by less than five points each of the past three years. Wake Forest had better be ready.

16. MONTANA

Record: 20-10, Last 10: 7-3.

Best win: 82-59 vs. New Mexico on Feb. 14.
Key players: F Mindaugas Katelnyas (12.2 pts., 9.2 reb.), G Chris Brown (12.8 pts., 4.5 reb.), F Alphonso Pump (10.4 pts., 3.6 reb.).

Did you know?: The Bear's appearance in the tournament comes in John Shulman's first year as coach.

Outlook: The Southern Conference champ has lost first-round games by less than five points each of the past three years. Wake Forest had better be ready.

As stacked, stacked bracket' with non-rivierge

Syracuse Regional champ will have to 'earn their way' to St. Louis

BY DENNIS WASZAK JR.

The Associated Press

North Carolina, Connecticut, Kansas and Florida are a formidable foursome at the top of the Syracuse Regional.

Throw in talent-laden teams linked Villanova, Wisconsin and North Carolina State, and this 16-team field shapes up as one of the toughest in recent NCAA tournament history.

"This is a stacked, stacked bracket," UConn coach Jim Calhoun said Sunday after the NCAA tournament's 64 teams were announced. "Therefore, whoever gets to St. Louis is going to have to earn their way."

The top-seeded Tar Heels (27-4) had its first 20-win season since 2000-2001 and finished alone atop the Atlantic Coast Conference regular-season standings for the first time since 1993, but lost to Georgia Tech in the ACC tournament semifinals.

"Earning a No. 1 seed is truly a reward for a fantastic season," coach Roy Williams said in a statement. "I am extremely happy for our seniors to make it to the NCAA tournament two years in a row after enduring a difficult first two years."

The Tar Heels will face the winner of Tuesday's play-in game Friday in Charlotte, N.C. Oakland (12-18), which won the Mid-Continent Conference tournament, will play Alabama & the Southwestern Athletic Conference champion in Dayton.

With a victory, Carolina would face the winner of the Minnesota (21-10)-Iowa State (18-11) matchup.

There's also the possibility of an intriguing Eight game with North Carolina facing Kansas — the school Williams let to coach his alma mater in 2003.

"It would be a dream for me," Kansas senior guard Michael Lee said. "I want to play for my former coach. I didn't think I would have a chance to. But if we get a chance to meet him, it would be fun."

The Jayhawks (23-6), the No. 3 seed, opened up Bucknell (22-9) at Oklahoma City. Kansas was ranked No. 1 in the coun-



Kansas coach coach Bill Self, left, has downplayed the potential Elite Eight matchup with former Kansas coach Roy Williams, right, now coaching No. 1 seed North Carolina.

try early on and No. 2 for most of the season but lost five of its last eight games, including the Big 12 semifinal to Oklahoma State.

Carolina is not on my brain at all," Kansas coach Bill Self said. "We've got Bucknell and we've got Wisconsin or Northern Iowa that we're fortunate enough to beat Bucknell. That's all this team should be focused on and thinking about."

Wisconsin (22-8) lost to No. 1 overall seed Illinois in the Big Ten championship, while Northern Iowa (21-10) has won five of seven.

Defending national champion Connecticut, the No. 2 seed, opens against Central Florida (24-8) at Worcester, Mass. The Huskies (22-7) have won 10 of their last 12 and earned a share of the Big East regular season crown — all while dealing with personal setbacks.



Star recruit A.J. Price is recovering from a brain hemorrhage he suffered in October. Leading scorer Rashad Anderson battled a life-threatening illness last month brought on by complications from a skin infection.

"It's been hard," forward Charles Villanueva said. "We've been through a lot and it's a blessing being a top seed. Without a doubt, it's toughened us up."

Next up would be the winner of the Charlotte (21-7)-North Carolina State (19-13) game.

State was ranked as high as No. 12 and started 10-11 this season, but lost nine of its next 12 before working their way back into tournament contention.

"Win or lose, they can always remember how they were in a very tough spot and yet

they battled their way out of it," coach Herb Sendek said. "That's something that's going to stay with these guys for a long time."

Florida (23-7), which beat Kentucky twice in eight days — to win the regular-season finale and its first SEC tournament title — opens against Ohio (21-10) in Nashville, Tenn.

"We're very, very excited about what happened today," coach Billy Donovan said. "But we've got to be able to take that next step and just focus on the NCAA tournament and getting ready to play."

The last time the Gators made the Final Four, also going through the Syracuse Regional, was in 2000, when they lost to Michigan State 89-76 in the national championship game. In the four years since, Florida hasn't gotten past the first round.

But the Gators are playing their best basketball of the season — winning seven in a row and allowing an average of just 56.4 points during that span.

The Florida-Ohio winter takes on whoever comes out of the Villanova-New Mexico game — one of the tournament's most intriguing 5-12 matchups.

Fifth-seeded Villanova (22-7), who played in the NIT the last five years, had an eight-game winning streak before losing to West Virginia in the Big East semifinals. "Nova gained confidence late in the season," coach Kevin Willard said. "It's Boston College last month and then No. 2 Kansas in January."

"I think it's helped us a lot to prepare for this particular matchup, playing those tough teams," forward Curtis Sumpter said.

"I think we're in one of the toughest brackets out there."

New Mexico (20-6) has won nine in a row and was a bit miffed at getting a No. 12 seed after winning the Mountain West Conference tournament.

"I thought we'd get an 11 or possibly a 10," New Mexico coach Ritchie McKay said. "Twelve seeds are usually the last at-large (teams) in. I thought being 26-6 deserved a little more favorable number ... but we'll just make what we got."

Syracuse Regional

1. NORTH CAROLINA
Record: 27-4, Last 16-2

Key players: Sean May (16.7 pts., 10.0 reb.), G Rashad Anderson (13.8 pts., 2.8 ast.), G Raymond Felton (12.0 pts., 7.3 ast.), F Jawad Williams (14.0 reb.).

Did you know? Roy Williams' 35 tournament wins are the most by any coach in college basketball. Sutter for most by a coach who hasn't won a national title.

Outlook: Powerful and deep, anything but a final Four disappointment.

2. CONNECTICUT
Record: 22-7, Last 16-5

Key players: F/C Brian Boone (12.3 pts., 8.5 reb.), F Charlie Villanueva (13.1 pts., 8.1 reb.), G Rashad Anderson (12.8 pts.).

Did you know? Roy Allen holds the Connecticut career record for three-point shooting at 44.8 percent (232-520).

Outlook: Rashad Anderson earned in Big East tournament after missing season games with staph infection. Needs a strong performance from Anderson if they hope to get back to the Final Four.

Record: 23-6, Last 16-5

Key players: F Wayne Simien (19.4 pts., 11.1 reb.), G Keith Langford (12.0 pts., 2.8 reb.), G Aaron Miles (9.4 pts., 7.3 ast.).

Did you know? Kansas has not lost a round game in the last 21 appearances.

Outlook: Jayhawks are talented enough to make the Final Four in the four years since, but only if they can shake a long season slump.

Record: 23-7, Last 16-1

Key players: G Anthony Robinson (18.6 pts., 2.4 reb.), F David Keith (13.8 pts., 4.32 3-pt pct.), F David Lee (13.3 pts., 8.8 reb.).

Did you know? Donovan and Texas Tech's Bob Knight are the only coaches to coach both college and play in a Final Four.

Outlook: Could be a new, close Texas look. This team is a mystery.

3. VILLANOVA
Record: 22-7, Last 16-2

Key players: F Alando Tucker (15.0 pts., 6.7 reb.), F Mike Williams (14.8 pts., 7.2 reb.), F Scott Chambers (17.7 pts., 2.9 ast.).

Did you know? Villanova has included the past six weeks and the season shows it can play well the big boys, but a repeat of the Wildcats' 1985 championship game is unlikely.

4. WISCONSIN
Record: 22-7, Last 16-2

Key players: F Alando Tucker (15.0 pts., 6.7 reb.), F Mike Williams (14.8 pts., 7.2 reb.), F Scott Chambers (17.7 pts., 2.9 ast.).

Did you know? Villanova has included the past six weeks and the season shows it can play well the big boys, but a repeat of the Wildcats' 1985 championship game is unlikely.

5. KANSAS
Record: 22-7, Last 16-2

Key players: F Alando Tucker (15.0 pts., 6.7 reb.), F Mike Williams (14.8 pts., 7.2 reb.), F Scott Chambers (17.7 pts., 2.9 ast.).

Did you know? Villanova has included the past six weeks and the season shows it can play well the big boys, but a repeat of the Wildcats' 1985 championship game is unlikely.

6. MINNESOTA
Record: 21-10, Last 16-4

Key players: F Alando Tucker (15.0 pts., 6.7 reb.), F Mike Williams (14.8 pts., 7.2 reb.), F Scott Chambers (17.7 pts., 2.9 ast.).

Did you know? Villanova has included the past six weeks and the season shows it can play well the big boys, but a repeat of the Wildcats' 1985 championship game is unlikely.

7. CHLOTTIE
Record: 21-10, Last 16-4

Key players: F Alando Tucker (15.0 pts., 6.7 reb.), F Mike Williams (14.8 pts., 7.2 reb.), F Scott Chambers (17.7 pts., 2.9 ast.).

Did you know? Villanova has included the past six weeks and the season shows it can play well the big boys, but a repeat of the Wildcats' 1985 championship game is unlikely.

9. IOWA STATE
Record: 19-11, Last 10-3

Key players: G Curtis Stinson (17.3 pts., 5.4 reb.), G Rashad Anderson (13.8 pts., 2.8 reb.), F Leon Williams (12.0 pts., 7.3 ast.).

Did you know? Villanova has included the past six weeks and the season shows it can play well the big boys, but a repeat of the Wildcats' 1985 championship game is unlikely.

10. NC STATE
Record: 19-11, Last 10-3

Key players: F Alando Tucker (15.0 pts., 6.7 reb.), F Mike Williams (14.8 pts., 7.2 reb.), F Scott Chambers (17.7 pts., 2.9 ast.).

Did you know? Villanova has included the past six weeks and the season shows it can play well the big boys, but a repeat of the Wildcats' 1985 championship game is unlikely.

11. NORTH CAROLINA
Record: 19-11, Last 10-3

Key players: F Alando Tucker (15.0 pts., 6.7 reb.), F Mike Williams (14.8 pts., 7.2 reb.), F Scott Chambers (17.7 pts., 2.9 ast.).

Did you know? Villanova has included the past six weeks and the season shows it can play well the big boys, but a repeat of the Wildcats' 1985 championship game is unlikely.

12. IOWA STATE
Record: 19-11, Last 10-3

Key players: F Alando Tucker (15.0 pts., 6.7 reb.), F Mike Williams (14.8 pts., 7.2 reb.), F Scott Chambers (17.7 pts., 2.9 ast.).

Did you know? Villanova has included the past six weeks and the season shows it can play well the big boys, but a repeat of the Wildcats' 1985 championship game is unlikely.

13. IOWA STATE
Record: 19-11, Last 10-3

Key players: F Alando Tucker (15.0 pts., 6.7 reb.), F Mike Williams (14.8 pts., 7.2 reb.), F Scott Chambers (17.7 pts., 2.9 ast.).

Did you know? Villanova has included the past six weeks and the season shows it can play well the big boys, but a repeat of the Wildcats' 1985 championship game is unlikely.

12. OHIO
Record: 21-10, Last 16-2

Key players: G Kevin Willard (14.8 pts., 1.8 reb.), G Kevin Willard (14.8 pts., 1.8 reb.), G Kevin Willard (14.8 pts., 1.8 reb.).

Did you know? Villanova has included the past six weeks and the season shows it can play well the big boys, but a repeat of the Wildcats' 1985 championship game is unlikely.

13. OHIO
Record: 21-10, Last 16-2

Key players: G Kevin Willard (14.8 pts., 1.8 reb.), G Kevin Willard (14.8 pts., 1.8 reb.), G Kevin Willard (14.8 pts., 1.8 reb.).

Did you know? Villanova has included the past six weeks and the season shows it can play well the big boys, but a repeat of the Wildcats' 1985 championship game is unlikely.

14. OHIO
Record: 21-10, Last 16-2

Key players: G Kevin Willard (14.8 pts., 1.8 reb.), G Kevin Willard (14.8 pts., 1.8 reb.), G Kevin Willard (14.8 pts., 1.8 reb.).

Did you know? Villanova has included the past six weeks and the season shows it can play well the big boys, but a repeat of the Wildcats' 1985 championship game is unlikely.

15. OHIO
Record: 21-10, Last 16-2

Key players: G Kevin Willard (14.8 pts., 1.8 reb.), G Kevin Willard (14.8 pts., 1.8 reb.), G Kevin Willard (14.8 pts., 1.8 reb.).

Did you know? Villanova has included the past six weeks and the season shows it can play well the big boys, but a repeat of the Wildcats' 1985 championship game is unlikely.

16. OHIO
Record: 21-10, Last 16-2

Key players: G Kevin Willard (14.8 pts., 1.8 reb.), G Kevin Willard (14.8 pts., 1.8 reb.), G Kevin Willard (14.8 pts., 1.8 reb.).

Did you know? Villanova has included the past six weeks and the season shows it can play well the big boys, but a repeat of the Wildcats' 1985 championship game is unlikely.

Home on the Plains

As if they needed more of an advantage, the Illini will be close to home throughout the tournament

By NANCY ARMOUR
The Associated Press

Illinois couldn't have a better location unless the NCAA tournament was moved to Assembly Hall.

The top-ranked Illini drew the overall No. 1 seed and the Chicago Regional on Sunday, essentially giving them homecourt advantage for the entire NCAA tournament. All three rounds are within a three-hour drive of the campus, and the regional finals are in Chicago, where most of the players grew up.

"It gives us a great advantage," Roger Powell Jr. said. "Our fan support is so strong. Even if we went far away, I'm sure they all would have come. This just makes it easier on their gas money, you might say."

Illinois set its sights on a No. 1 seed months ago, with Nick Smith saying in October, "If St. Louis or Duke... Which No. 1 really didn't matter, though the Illini know their geography as well as anybody else."

And the Illini made it easy on the selection committee, going 32-1, spending almost the entire season as No. 1 and winning the Big Ten title and conference tournament.

Even a loss in the regular-season finale didn't hurt them, though it had seemed to reinforce what coaches and fans were saying all along. The big men are saying all along. The big men are saying all along. There is little, if any, depth and the Big Ten isn't the ACC. The Big Ten may have kept their No. 1 ranking last week, but 22 voters preferred North Carolina.

But Illinois won the Big Ten tournament Sunday after North Carolina lost to Georgia Tech in

the ACC semifinals. The Tar Heels finished the year 27-4. All the other top schools finished with at least four losses.

"We put ourselves in the position we wanted to be in. All we have to do is take advantage of it," said James Augustine, the most valuable player in the Big Ten tournament. "We're happy with the position we're in."

They should be. While other tournament teams will be spending much of their time traveling — Alabama-Birmingham was sent to Boise, Idaho, for the opening round — the Illini could hitch rides and still make it with time to spare.

Indianapolis, where the Illini

"They are definitely feeding us to the lions."

Tom Green

Fairleigh Dickinson coach

will play 16th-seeded Fairleigh Dickinson on Thursday is a two-hour drive. Chicago is less than 2½ hours away, and St. Louis is on the state line, a mere three-hour in-season except for a plain, home to eight players and the largest alumni concentration.

And talk about fan-friendliness. When Illini played in the Wooden Classic in December, Illini fans overran the city. Chicago is merely an extension of the campaign, home to eight players and the largest alumni concentration.

On Sunday, the entire arena was awash in a much more than small sections. They're not shy about their allegiance, either.

They even booted the clips of last year, when we had a song that flashed on the scoreboard.

"Hopefully our buying has been on the phones, buying up

tickets," coach Bruce Weber said. "We talked about having a chance to go to Indy, to go to Chicago. We're pleased with that. At the same time, I told the kids I was part of a No. 1 seed at Purdue and we got upset in the second round. So you can't take anything for granted."

Don't worry about that, Deron Williams said. "We're not Purdue. We're trying to write our own stories," he said. "We're going to be focused. We've got Fairleigh Dickinson first. We're going to concentrate on this."

Great, just what the Knights wanted to hear. Fairleigh Dickinson won the Northeast Conference championship to

earn a spot in the NCAA tournament for the first time in seven years. The Knights (20-12) knew they'd be facing a No. 1 team; they just didn't think it would be Illinois.

They are definitely feeding us to the lions," Fairleigh Dickinson coach Tom Green said.

Illinois isn't the only team in the Chicago Region with a friendly travel schedule. Oklahoma State was tapped as the No. 2 seed after winning the Big 12 tournament, and drew Oklahoma City for the opening round.

The Cowboys (24-6) play 15th-seeded Southeast Louisiana (24-8) on Friday. "We really wanted to go to Oklahoma City. We have a very good chance there," Daniel Bobek said. "If we make it to Chicago, it is the same thing that we faced last year, when we had to go to New Jersey, which is like playing St. Joe's at home."

For those not keeping score, the Cowboys knocked off



Illinois coach Bruce Weber waves the net he cut down after the Illini beat Wisconsin 54-43 in the title game of the Big Ten tournament.

top-seeded Saint Joseph's in the regional finals to advance to the Final Four.

"We have a good bracket, considering the other teams in the Big 12," Joey Graham said. "We have a great opportunity."

Write the Illini and Cowboys have no complaints with their seedings. Boston College was more than a little bitter. Back when they were 20-0 and ranked third in the country, the Eagles were in line for a No. 1 seed.

But after going 4-4 in their last eight games — including a loss to

West Virginia in their first game of the Big East tournament — the Eagles found themselves seeded fourth in the Chicago regional.

Worse, they were shipped to Cleveland for the opening round instead of to nearby Worcester, Mass. When the Eagles saw their No. 4 seed, they sat stone-faced while students watching the selection show with them boomed.

Boston College will play 13th-seeded Penn (20-8) on Thursday.

Chicago Regional

1. ILLINOIS

Record: 32-1. Last 16: 9-1.
Best win: 31-3 vs. Wake Forest on Dec. 1.
Key players: G Luther Head (16.1 pts., 4.23 3-pt. pct.), G Deron Williams (12.4 pts., 6.6 ast.).
Did you know? Four coaches (Lou Henson, Ron Kruger, Bill Self, Weber) have led Illinoises to the Final Four in the last 40 years.

Outlook: After a magical season, if this experience isn't meant to be, it isn't. For the Final Four, the Land of Lincoln will be crushed.

2. OKLAHOMA STATE

Record: 24-6. Last 10: 7-3.
Best win: 74-60 vs. Syracuse on Dec. 7.
Key players: F Joey Graham (17 pts., 6.4 reb.), F Ivan Johnson (14.6 pts.).
Did you know? When Lucas, whose father was an American in Iraq and basketball for Maryland, was nationally ranked as a junior tenor.

Outlook: With a few breaks, OSU has the horses to make it back to the Final Four. The Cowboys lead the nation in three-point shooting (42 percent).

3. ARIZONA

Record: 27-6. Last 16: 8-8.
Best win: 81-52 vs. Georgetown on Jan. 27.
Key players: G Salim Stoudemire (18.2 pts., 5.30 3-pt. pct.), G Channing Frye (15.6 pts., 7.2 reb.), F Hassan Adams (12.5 pts., 5.9 reb.).
Did you know? Olson passed John Wooden this season for most Pac-10 wins in history.

Outlook: With Stoudemire and Frye at the top of their games, anything short of the final eight will be a disappointing loss.

4. BOSTON COLLEGE

Record: 24-14. Last 16: 10-4.
Best win: 65-60 vs. Syracuse on Feb. 19.
Key players: C Craig Smith (17.4 pts., 8.5 reb.), F Jared Dudley (16.2 pts., 6.8 reb.).
Did you know? Coach Al Skinner has led Boston College to 15 Big East regular-season crowns, one Big East Tournament title and four postseason tournament berths.

Outlook: After starting season 20-0, Eagles slipped to their first losing record with Ben Genshaw and Tom Kile.

5. KANSAS

Record: 24-7. Last 10: 7-3.
Best win: 88-40 vs. Wake Forest on Jan. 18.
Key players: G Kennedy Winston (18.1 pts., 2.4 reb.), F Earnest Shelton (16.4 pts., 2.1 ast.), F Chuck Davis (14.2 pts., 6.8 reb.).
Did you know? The Jayhawks won the 1988 NCAA Sweet 16 team. Gottfried set a school record with eight three-pointers in a win over Wake Forest.

Outlook: Talent level could reach Sweet 16, but it's a long haul.

6. LOUISIANA STATE

Record: 20-9. Last 16: 6-10.
Best win: 61-50 vs. Alabama (Feb. 30, ast.).
Key players: F Brandon Bass (17.5 pts., 6.8 reb.), G Darrell Mitchell (13.5 pts., 2.2 ast.), F Glen Davis (13.1 pts., 8.7 reb.).
Did you know? Josh Maravich, son of the late LSU great Pete Maravich, is a walk-on guard for the Tigers.

Outlook: Lots of promise but little production from Maravich. He will have to struggle to make it to the Sweet Sixteen.

7. SOUTHERN ILLINOIS

Record: 26-7. Last 10: 9-1.
Best win: 71-67 vs. Creighton on Feb. 12.
Key players: G Darren Brooks (15.0 pts., 5.1 reb.), G Jamal Tatum (12.2 pts., 2.2 ast.), G Stetson Bennett (12.2 pts., 2.3 ast.).
Did you know? Brooks was named Missouri Valley Conference player of the year each of last two seasons.

Outlook: With surprise run to Sweet 16 in 2002 and losing to Missouri and Alabama in first round last two years, Salukis are not to be taken lightly.

8. TEXAS

Record: 20-9. Last 16: 8-8.
Best win: 75-61 vs. Oklahoma State on Jan. 17.
Key players: G Jason Smith (17.4 pts., 5.9 reb.), F Brad Buckner (12.7 pts., 8.3 reb.), C Jason Koltz (10.8 pts., 5.6 reb.).
Did you know? Buckman's father won two NCAA championships in 1971-72 while playing basketball for the Longhorns golf team with Ben Genshaw and Tom Kile.

Outlook: Stung by the loss of P. Tucker due to academic problems, the Longhorns will be very fortunate to make the Sweet 16.

9. NEVADA

Record: 24-6. Last 16: 9-7.
Best win: 62-60 at UTEP on Feb. 12.
Key players: G Nick Farkas (21.5 pts., 9.4 reb.), F Kevin Perkins (12.4 pts., 7.6 reb.), G Ramon Sessions (10.3 pts., 5.3 ast.).
Did you know? In only second NCAA appearance ever last year, Wolf Pack stunned No. 7 seed Michigan State and No. 2 seed Gonzaga before falling to a Ga. Tech in Sweet 16.

Outlook: Underdog Wolf Pack shocked field last year and could pull another surprise against No. 11, ALABAMA-BIRMINGHAM.

10. ST. MARY'S

Record: 25-8. Last 16: 7-9.
Best win: 69-61 vs. Gonzaga on Jan. 25.
Key players: G Paul Marquis (12.9 pts., 4.37 reb.), G The Gables (12.9 pts., 6.7 reb.), G E.J. Rowland (11.2 pts., 3.8 ast.).
Did you know? The Gaels' last NCAA win in 1959 came four years before Bennett was born. Underdog team, 4-4 non-conference mark shows they might be capable of an upset.

Outlook: The Blazers upset Washington and Kentucky in similar run in unlikely way.

11. MISSOURI-KANSAS

Record: 24-5. Last 16: 9-1.
Best win: 86-66 vs. Wisconsin-Green Bay on Jan. 15.

Key players: G Ed McCants (17.4 pts., 2.8 reb.), F Josh Tucker (15.2 pts., 5.9 reb.), G Boo Davis (10.4 pts., 3.3 reb.).
Did you know? McCants, the Horizon League Player of the Year, has made at least one three-point basket in every Panthers game this season.

Outlook: Fared poorly against big brother Wisconsin and Kansas during regular season. A first-round upset over Alabama would be a shocker.

12. PENNSYLVANIA

Record: 20-8. Last 16: 9-1.
Best win: 67-59 vs. St. Joseph's on Jan. 25.
Key players: G Tim Bepley (13.8 pts., 5.4 reb.), G Adam Jaulier (11.3 pts., 2.7 ast.), F Steve Baney (9.4 pts., 5.1 reb.).
Did you know? In 1979, Quakers rode upset wins over North Carolina, Syracuse, St. John's to lone Final Four trip where they were thumped, 101-57, by Magic Johnson-led Michigan State.

Outlook: Only 1-7 in NCAA games under coach Fran Dunphy. Quakers are capable of close call against Boston College, but no more.

13. UTAH STATE

Record: 24-12. Last 16: 8-2.
Best win: 54-50 at Cal State on Nov. 21.
Key players: F Spencer Nelson (15.4 pts., 8.1 reb.), G Ricky Woods (17.2 pts., 6.9 reb.), G J. E. Rowland (11.2 pts., 5.1 reb.).
Did you know? Last year's Utah State team was designed a tournament berth despite a Top 25 ranking and a 25-4 record.

Outlook: A good mix of youth and veterans, the Aggies could catch Arizona on the edge.

15. SOUTHEAST LOUISIANA

Record: 24-12. Last 16: 10-2.
Best win: 56-48 at Boise State on Nov. 21.
Key players: F Ricky Woods (17.2 pts., 6.9 reb.), G Jonathan Pugh (18.8 pts., 3.2 reb.), G Nate Lonzo (11.5 pts., 2.7 reb.).

Did you know? The Lions have the sixth-best scoring defense in the nation, allowing just 58.8 points per game.

Outlook: With no experience in the tournament or even against a Big East conference team, the Lions are a long-shot for a single win.

16. FAIRLEIGH DICKINSON

Record: 20-12. Last 16: 7-9.
Best win: 75-74 at Butler on Dec. 9.
Key players: G Tamek Frazier (15.2 pts., 6.7 reb.), G Deron Williams (12.4 pts., 6.6 ast.).
Did you know? Fairleigh Dickinson is a dual-campus university that fields 16 Division I athletic teams and 19 Division II teams.

Outlook: The Knights played virtually no team of any consequence this season. Against Illinois, they'll likely be hopelessly overmatched.

Chaney returning for NIT

The Associated Press

PHILADELPHIA — John Chaney will return to coach Temple in the NIT.

Chaney was suspended for the final five games of the season after ordering rough play from one of his players, who subsequently broke the arm of St. Joseph's senior John Bryant.

Chaney, 73, first suspended himself for one game before the school extended the punishment to three games after the extent of Bryant's injury was discovered. The Hall of Fame coach then banned himself from the Temple sidelines for the Atlantic 10 tournament.

The school announced Monday that Chaney would be on the bench when the Owls (16-13) play at Virginia Tech (15-13) in a first-round game Tuesday night.

Top assistant Dan Liebovitz went 3-2 in Chaney's absence. Liebovitz said Monday that Chaney has been at every home practice and "pretty much has been his usual self." Liebovitz said the players have moved on.

"In their eyes, it's a dead issue at this point," he said.

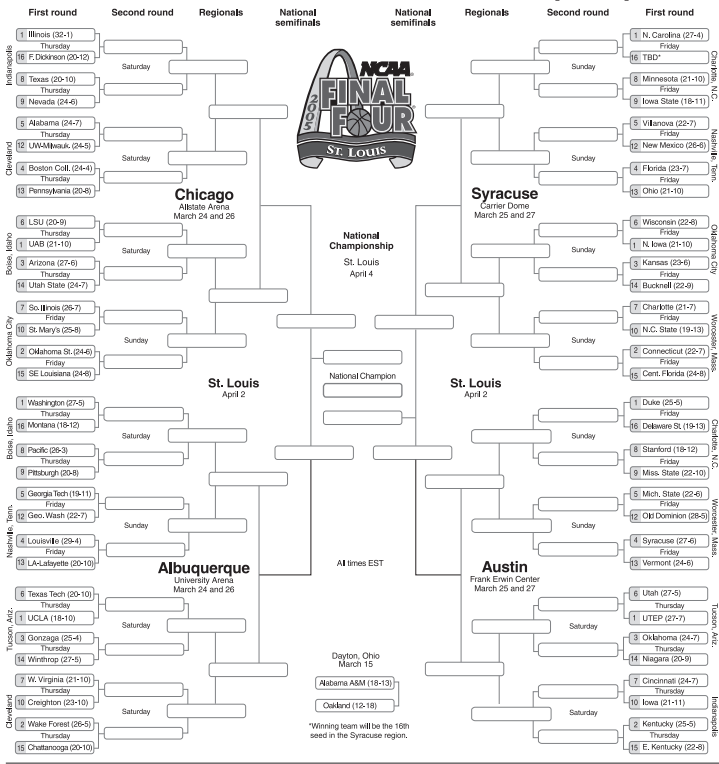
"We've done everything we can as a university to spread our sympathy and our apologies."

Telephone messages left for Chaney and athletic director Bill Bradshaw were not immediately returned.

The Hawks (19-11) also are in the NIT and play Hofstra (21-8) on Wednesday.

In a 63-56 loss to Saint Joseph's on Feb. 22, Chaney used Nehemiah Ingram — a player the coach called a "goon" — to "send a message" by committing hard fouls. Ingram fouled out in four minutes, including the hit on Bryant that left the senior suspended from the court for several minutes. An MRI revealed he had a broken arm.

2005 NCAA Division I men's basketball championship



NCAA: Poor play late costs Wake, Boston College

NCAA, FROM BACK PAGE

the Conference USA regular season and tournament titles. Instead, the weekend's upsets turned everything upside down.

It's the sixth time in eight years two teams from the same conference were seeded No. 1. The last time was 2003, with Oklahoma and Texas of the Big 12. No conference has ever had three No. 1s and for the first time ever two No. 1s will be playing in the same venue.

Duke and North Carolina will both play Friday in Charlotte. Duke opens against Delaware State (19-13), while North Carolina (27-4) meets the winner of Tuesday's play-in game between Oklahoma (12-18) and Alabama A&M (18-13).

Oakland is the only team in the field with a losing record.

"We try to keep people as close to home as possible, and that starts on Line 1," Bowlsby said.

Kentucky drew a No. 2 seed after losing to Florida in the SEC championship and

will play in nearby Indianapolis. Louisville drew the No. 4 seed in Albuquerque and opens in Nashville, Tenn.

"People inside here were saying, 'We're definitely a 2, maybe a 1,'" Louisville coach Rick Pitino said. "I said, 'Look, don't be surprised if we're a 3.' I had a gut feeling."

Other teams were not so lucky.

Bowlsby said Wake Forest could have sneaked back onto a top seed if Duke had lost the ACC title game. Instead, the Demon Deacons were given a No. 2 seed and sent to Cleveland for a contest with Chattanooga (20-10) and a possible regional final showdown with Winthrop.

Seventh-ranked Boston College (24-4), the Big East regular-season co-champ, was shipped to Cleveland, where it faces Ivy League champ Pennsylvania. Boston College is No. 4 in Chicago.

"I'm disappointed, because we had it in our hands, being 20-0, and let it slip away," Eagles forward Jared Dudley said. "But you can cry about it, or you can do something about it."

Two other Big East schools, Connecticut (22-7) and Syracuse (27-6), will play in Worcester, Mass. Connecticut, the defending national champ, is the second seed in Syracuse, while the Orange are No. 4 in Austin.

The committee can't put more than two teams from the same conference at one site.

Among those not invited were Saint Joseph's (19-11), DePaul (19-10), Maryland (16-12) and Notre Dame (17-11). With the Irish missing the cut and 15-13 Indiana falling off the bubble, it is the first time since 1972 that the state of Indiana was shut out of the tournament.

The Illini won't get any frequent flyer miles in this tournament, with the first and second rounds in Indianapolis, the regional in Chicago and the Final Four on April 2 and 4 in St. Louis.

Illinois opens Thursday against Northeast Conference champion Fairleigh Dickinson. They were followed in the Chicago regional by second-seeded Oklahoma

State, which won the Big 12 tournament; No. 3 Arizona, the regular-season Pac-10 champion; and Boston College.

Washington opens Thursday in Boise against Montana, the Big Sky champion. Gonzaga is the No. 3 seed in the region and plays Winthrop.

After North Carolina, which lost to Georgia Tech in the ACC semifinals, and Connecticut, Kansas is No. 3 and Florida is No. 4.

Along with Duke and Kentucky in the Austin bracket are third-seeded Oklahoma and Syracuse.

The Big East and Big 12 each has six teams in the field, one short of the record, while the ACC, SEC and Big Ten have five apiece. The other multiple bid leagues were Conference USA and the Pac-10 with four; the Missouri Valley with three; and the Big West, Mountain West, West Coast and Western Athletic Conferences with two.

The last of the at-large teams were all No. 11 seeds: Alabama-Birmingham (21-10), Northern Iowa (21-10) and UCLA (18-10).

What! Who's No. 1?

Committee says Stanford isn't worthy of a top regional seeding

BY CHUCK SCHOFFNER
The Associated Press

LSU and Tennessee tried to make a case on the selection committee for NCAA women's basketball tournament.

If only the other top teams had been as cooperative.

By winning so often against top-caliber competition, LSU and Tennessee were obvious choices as No. 1 seeds in the tournament bracket that went up Sunday. It took careful examination and considerable debate to come up with the two others: Michigan State and North Carolina.

Uh, notice anyone missing here? That would be Stanford, the No. 1 team in The Associated Press poll. For the first time since it happened to Texas in 1984, the nation's top-ranked team is not a No. 1 seed in the NCAA field.

The disappointed Cardinal, 29-2 with 20 straight victories, drew their best to be diplomatic. Still, it wasn't what they had expected after sweeping the regional-season and tournament championships in the Pac-10, a league that ended up with as many NCAA teams (5) as the more highly regarded Southeastern Conference.

"Honestly, a long time ago I stopped trying to figure out the committee and seeds," said Stanford coach Tara VanDerveer, whose team reached the regional finals last year as a No. 6 seed.

"What's much more important to me is the team being healthy. There's no sense in overanalyzing the thing."

Stanford wasn't healthy the last time it was seeded No. 1, in 1998, and was stunned by 16th-seeded Harvard in the first round.

LSU was the overall No. 1 seed and was followed by Tennessee, Michigan State and North Carolina. Baylor also got consideration as the highest-ranked No. 2 seed.

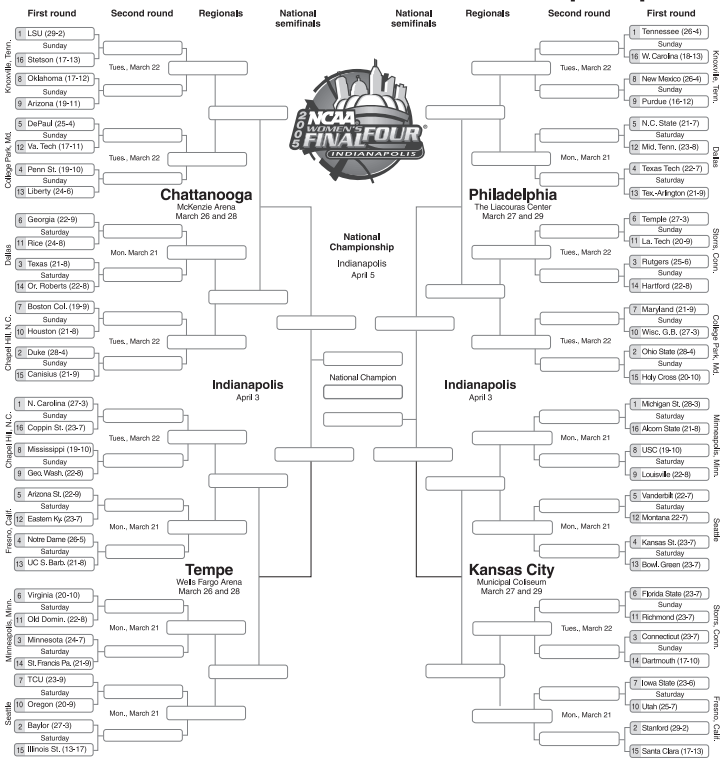
Stanford came next.

"We spent more time on the No. 1 than any year I've been on the committee," said Lynn Parkes, who chairs the group. "When we got down to those last two, there wasn't much to separate them."

Stanford's seeding wasn't the only thing that raised questions.

The committee decided to send Rutgers to the first, second-round site at Connecticut, where the teams had a flare-up after the Big East championship game last week.

2005 NCAA Division I women's basketball championship



Source: NCAA

AP

Rutgers guard Cappie Pondexter, who at UConn coach Geno Auriemma after hearing something she felt was objectionable late in the game. Auriemma insisted he was talking to an official.

Connecticut and Rutgers won't play each other because they're in different regions, but hard feelings might linger.

"I don't know, it doesn't take a lot of imagination to see their thinking," Rutgers coach C. Vivian Stringer said. "After all, we just came back from there. There was a lot of controversy there, so why not send them there again? Who knows what they are thinking?"

Making LSU and Tennessee the top seeds was something the committee didn't have to defend.

LSU, which spent more time at No. 1 in the poll than anyone else this season, went 14-0 in the Southeastern Conference, then lost to Tennessee by two in the finals of the SEC tournament.

Tennessee lost only to LSU in

the conference season and played the nation's toughest schedule.

Two teams from the same conference have been No. 1 seeds 10 times previously, most recently in 2003. Tennessee and LSU also were the two that year.

"It's great for the program," said LSU coach Pokey Chatman, who got the Lady Tigers to the Final Four last season while subbing for ailing Sue Gunter. "I can remember wondering if you were going to get in or wondering if you were going to be a 1, 2, 3 or 4 seed. It was nice knowing that for a small amount of time, you were concerned about being the (top) No. 1 seed."

Interestingly, LSU and Tennessee will start the tournament on the Lady Vols' court in Knoxville, which could make that site a hot ticket. LSU is the top seed in the Chattanooga Regional, while Tennessee was placed in the Philadelphia Regional.

Michigan State is No. 1 in the Kansas City Regional. North Caro-

lina heads the bracket for the Tempe Regional.

The women's tournament scrapped the East, Midwest, Midwest and West designations in favor of the city hosting the regional semifinals and finals.

Of course, there could be a North Pole Regional and Michigan State would be excited. This is the first No. 1 seed for the Spartans, who shared the Big Ten title with Ohio State and won the conference tournament. They haven't played in a week and are eager to get started.

"These kids are grumpy and tired of sitting around," Michigan State coach Joanne P. McCallie said. "They're ready to play. It doesn't matter who else is in the bracket."

The bracket actually is downright tough. Stanford is the No. 2 seed, Connecticut is the second and Kansas State is the No. 4 seed. Connecticut, winner of the last three national championships, won the Big East tournament

this year. Kansas State was the Big 12 tournament runner-up.

Michigan State is the only No. 1 seed that plays on Saturday, facing Alcorn State in Minneapolis. The three other top seeds play on Sunday.

Tennessee vs. Western Carolina, LSU vs. Stetson and North Carolina vs. Coppin State.

Before this year, Michigan State's highest seed had been No. 4 and that was back in 1991.

"I really wondered how they'd weigh what we've done this year against the tradition that we don't have in this program, compared to some other schools," McCallie said. "If you look at what we did this year, it's a hands-down case. If you look at it in terms of tradition, it gets a little murky."

In the end, however, it cleared right up.

"There are times that there's not very much that separates teams," said Parkes, the associate athletic director at Memphis. "But we have to come to a decision and our decision was that North Carolina and Michigan State were the (final) No. 1 seeds."

SPORTS

Seeds of contention



Johnson ends Roush stranglehold in Vegas,
Page 30



AP PHOTOS

Top: Illinois' Deron Williams directs his teammates during the championship game of the Big Ten tournament Sunday. Illinois got the top seed in the Chicago region. Above left: Oklahoma State's Terrence Crawford celebrates the Cowboys' Big 12 Tournament victory. The Big 12 got six NCAA berths. Center: Florida's Matt Walsh reacts near the end of a 70-53 rout of Kentucky in the SEC Tournament championship. Above right: Duke's Shavlik Randolph and the Blue Devils earned a No. 1 seed by beating Georgia Tech in the ACC tournament final.

Late upsets help throw NCAA tournament selections into chaos

BY MICHAEL MAROT
The Associated Press

INDIANAPOLIS — The NCAA selection committee expected to struggle in seeding this year's 65-team tournament field. Every weekend upset made the task even more daunting.

With a record number of schools topping 20 wins, a rash of surprise finishes and a continually changing picture, nothing was decided easily. Not even choosing the top four seeds — Illinois, North Carolina, Duke and Washington.

The 10 committee members debated into the final hour Sunday about how the brackets should look, and finally settled on making Washington a No. 1 seed.

"You want to make sure you get it right on Line 1 but you also want to get it right on Lines 2, 3 and 4," selection committee chairman Bob Bowlsby said. "If you don't, then the fairness of the tournament is then really called into question."

Bowlsby's fifth year on the committee might have been his toughest.

He acknowledged teams such as Kansas and Gonzaga



■ Illinois gets closest thing to home-court advantage, Page 37

■ Formidable foursome top Syracuse regional, Page 36

■ Austin sets up Duke, Kentucky final, Page 35

may have deserved better than a No. 3 seed. Others, like Maryland and Buffalo, maybe could complain they should have been included.

Then there was Bowlsby's own school — he is the athletic director at Iowa — which leapfrogged Indiana into the

tournament even though the Hoosiers won three more Big Ten games.

And yet it was the late-game results that created the most chaos.

"It was a big headache," Bowlsby said. "We had about five or six different scenarios that involved about four teams and a lot of them were either-or type situations."

The top three seeds — Illinois (32-1) in the Chicago region, North Carolina (27-4) in Syracuse, N.Y., and Duke (25-5) in Austin, Texas — were no surprise.

The Illini won the Big Ten regular season and then the tournament title and were ranked No. 1 most of the season. The Tar Heels and Blue Devils split the regular-season and tournament titles in the Atlantic Coast Conference, which had the nation's highest conference RPI.

But Washington (27-5), which ranked No. 14 last week, took the No. 1 seed in Albuquerque. Many thought that spot could have gone to a third ACC school, Wake Forest; Southeastern Conference regular-season champ Kentucky (25-5); or sixth-ranked Louisville (29-4), which won

SEE NCAA ON PAGE 38

No. 1 Stanford doesn't get top women's seed Page 39

